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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

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# Arab-Israeli Talks

## Syrian Delegate on Start of Bilateral Talks

*JN1012171091 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Washington—Negotiations of the second stage of the Middle East peace conference began today in Washington at 1000 Washington time, 1700 Damascus time.

The delegations were received upon their arrival at the U.S. State Department, where the talks are to be held, by journalists and members of the media.

Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Arab Syrian delegation, answered journalists' questions just before entering the U.S. State Department building, saying that the Arab Syrian delegation hopes, after the Israeli obstruction, that efforts will resume today to reach a just and comprehensive peace, and he expressed the hope that the other side has a similar desire and that our efforts and our stay will not have been in vain.

Al-'Allaf added that the Arab Syrian delegation has come to discuss essential issues.

Responding to a question on what the Arab Syrian delegation is going to present at the negotiations, al-'Allaf replied that the delegation will present what is contained in the UN resolutions regarding peace for land—the land that Israel occupied by force and that should be returned to its owners.

## Sees 'No Progress'

*JN1012224191 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2140 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation, has declared that no progress was made in the first meeting of the second stage of talks in the Middle East peace process, which was held with the Israeli side at the U.S. State Department at 1000 today.

Replying to journalists' questions following the meeting, al- 'Allaf said: What took place in today's meeting was a reiteration of the same Israeli position at Madrid. Al-'Allaf added that the Israelis want to talk about everything other than withdrawal from the Arab occupied territories. They also reiterated their rejection of the principle of land for peace. They either insisted on irrelevant issues, or on matters that are an outcome of, rather than a precondition for, peace.

Al-'Allaf added: The Syrian Arab delegation hopes for things to change as the talks resume at 1000 tomorrow, especially if the Israeli side decides to enter into substantial issues and discuss main issues represented in the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle of land for peace.

The head of the Syrian Arab delegation said: We reminded the Israeli side that the land of which we speak is not theirs. It is an Arab land which they must return. It is a land they occupied by force. We also reminded them that peace cannot be in the interest of only one side, rather it must be in the interest of all sides.

Replying to a question on whether the cosponsors of the conference will be resorted to if no progress is made in the negotiations, al-'Allaf said: It is natural to resort to them so that they can carry out their good offices, especially since they have informed us that they represent the driving force behind the negotiations. We hope that they continue to do so until the objective—establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region—for which the peace conference was held is attained.

The second stage of talks in the Middle East peace conference began today at 1000 Washington time, 1700 Damascus time. Groups of journalists and media representatives were waiting for the delegations as they entered the U.S. State Department where the talks were held.

Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation, had answered journalists' questions prior to entering the U.S. State Department. He said: The Syrian Arab delegation hopes, after the Israeli obstruction, for the efforts toward reaching a just and comprehensive peace will be resumed today. We hope that the opposite side has a similar desire, and that our efforts and waiting have not been wasted. Al-'Allaf added that the Syrian Arab delegation came to discuss substantive issues.

Answering a question on what the Syrian Arab delegation will present at the negotiations, al-'Allaf said: What the delegation will present is what is stipulated in the UN resolutions; that is, peace in exchange for the land that Israel occupied by force, which must be returned to its owners.

## Lebanese Delegation Head on Israel Talks

*NC1012214491 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 2005 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, NNA, team report from Washington]

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese negotiations delegation, has affirmed to the NNA team that during the first round of negotiations with the Israeli side, Lebanon proposed the bases and means for implementing all articles of Resolution 425. He said that this request came in order to implement the cabinet's resolutions, as well as Foreign Minister lawyer Faris Buwayz' instructions. Ambassador Shammas added: We are not here to negotiate the contents of the resolution, but the means and ways of implementing all the articles of this resolution.

Ambassador Shammas described the talks of the first round as serious and said that the discussions dealt in depth with the points proposed. Discussions, he said, will resume during the afternoon session at 1500 Washington time, 2200 Beirut time.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr. Secretary General, the first round of negotiations with the Israeli side has ended. There is a second round in the afternoon. Upon exiting the session, you said the talks were serious and the discussions deep. Are there any more details you can fill us in on regarding the atmosphere of the first round of negotiations?

[Shammas] Of course, I will give you the answer on the atmosphere of the talks. First and foremost, however, I wish to clarify right from the start that these are difficult and complicated negotiations. Anticipating events to give information on the course of these negotiations could obstruct our negotiating stand. If sometimes I seem to be hesitant about giving information, I hope you will excuse me. The reason for this lies in the nature and requirements of these talks.

Now I can answer your question. The negotiations were serious and, as I described them when I came out of the hall in English, businesslike [preceding word in English]; that is, they were characterized by an atmosphere of work [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Mr. Secretary General, what are the most important subjects you proposed during the first session?

[Shammas] Actually, discussion was general, a portrayal of stands. What we proposed [word indistinct] is, to be precise, a reflection of the instructions Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz gave us in light of the cabinet decisions which were prevailing. They can be summarized in that we are not here to negotiate over the contents of Resolution 425, but to discuss ways and means of implementing it. What was proposed by the Lebanese side this morning is how to implement Resolution 425, including all its obstacles.

[Correspondent] Mr. Secretary General, did the Israeli side raise any issues dealing with security arrangements, or have they perhaps previously raised these issues?

[Shammas] I will not tell you or anyone else what the Israeli side proposed. What I will say is that we insist that discussions—within the framework of these negotiations—should not slip out of our control and be diverted to issues beyond the scope of our demand to implement Resolution 425. We accept discussing any points that realize the Lebanese demand to implement this resolution on the ground. Anything that is beyond this point and distracts from the stand of the Lebanese delegation [words indistinct] and will handle it in the ways usually employed in such talks.

[Correspondent] What was the Israeli reaction to the Lebanese demand on the implementation of Resolution 425, especially since the mechanism for that is known and Lebanon's stand proceeds from the agreement [words indistinct]?

[Shammas] The Israelis have their opinions on this issue. I will not tell you or anyone else what they think. But the fact that we have postponed the session until the afternoon means that discussions and talks will continue. Believe me, I have told you much more than I expected when you first started this interview with me. You represent the official news agency NNA [words indistinct]. This is what I have to say on this subject.

[Correspondent] Do you expect the negotiations to go on for long, especially since the Israelis are talking about returning to Israel for consultations on Friday? Did you sense any such feeling during the meeting today?

[Shammas] The Israelis have their own opinion. If they have made such a decision, then this does not go along with the spirit that should prevail in such talks. [words indistinct] that in the course of negotiations it wishes to control the future time and place, as we did this morning. We proposed postponing the meeting until the afternoon and the Israeli side accepted our demand. We believe that as long as there is a give-and-take atmosphere, then they should continue.

[Correspondent] Thank you, sir. [end recording]

### Lebanese Reject Israeli Proposal

*NC1112104991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Zuhayr al-Agha, a member of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, in a statement to our Washington correspondent said he has noticed a retreat in the U.S. guarantees to the Arabs, noting that these guarantees included two channels for negotiations: a Palestinian-Israeli channel and an Arab-Israeli channel.

He repeated the Palestinian delegation's insistence on negotiating with Israel independently, saying: However, we agreed that the Palestinian delegation should comprise a representative of the Jordanian side and that the Jordanian delegation should include a coordinator for the Palestinian side. He explained that the Palestinians' aim in seeking an independent representation is to establish an independent Palestinian state.

The Lebanese and Israeli delegations will resume their bilateral negotiations this evening, Beirut time.

Our correspondent in Washington said the Israeli delegation made a proposal to the Lebanese delegation in yesterday's meeting that security arrangements be modeled after the 17 May agreement, which the Lebanese delegation rejected.

### Jordan's al-Majali: 'Meeting Produced Nothing'

*JN1112091991 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[By George Tarif from Washington]

[Text] Jordanian chief delegate Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, Palestinian chief delegate Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, and Israeli chief delegate Elyaqim Rubenstein met twice yesterday in the corridor leading to the meeting hall at the U.S. State Department without reaching any agreement on resuming the talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation or two separate delegations.

Emerging from the second meeting, which ended early this morning, Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali told reporters that the meeting produced nothing. Only procedural issues and some proposals on how to conduct the talks were discussed, he said. He announced that a third meeting will be held today to continue discussing this issue.

Dr. al-Majali said that the Jordanian delegation suggested to the Israelis a joint session, including the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations, with the Israeli delegation in order to discuss only this point. The Jordanian and Palestinian delegations would then split into a Palestinian-Israeli track and Jordanian-Israeli track. The Israeli delegation refused this suggestion, however, and insisted that the talks should all be held with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. Emerging from the second meeting, Dr. al-Majali told reporters:

[Begin recording] We met in the afternoon and discussed the same issues we discussed in the morning; that is, the issue of separating the joint delegation, or the so-called joint delegation, into a Palestinian delegation on the Palestinian-Israeli track, and a Jordanian delegation on the Jordanian-Israeli track. We did not reach a final decision. There were some clarifications from both parties, but nothing was finalized. Tomorrow, we will meet again to continue discussion of this subject. [end recording]

The first meeting among the Jordanian, Palestinian, and Israeli chief delegates lasted three hours without reaching any agreement in this regard. Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, only said after the second meeting: We met but did not make any progress. We will meet again today.

### Al-Majali, 'Abd-al-Shafi Comment

*JN1012204091 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] First, we go to Washington where Arab and Israeli negotiators held the first round of bilateral peace talks. The delegations arrived at the U.S. State Department this afternoon, and talks began between Israeli, Syrian, and Lebanese delegations. However, talks with the Jordanian and Palestinian sides of the joint delegation were stalled after Israel refused to negotiate separately with the two sides. The Israeli delegation head refused to start the negotiations until resolving the issue of whether the joint delegation should be split into two separate groups.

Palestinian delegation head Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi said Israel wanted to blur the Palestinian identity, while Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al- Majali ,Jordanian delegation head] said another meeting is scheduled later this evening.

[Begin recording] [Al-Majali] I just want to tell you that the head of the delegations—Israel, and Jordan, Palestinian—met in the corridor for nearly three hours. And, we discussed procedures, and we hope to meet again this afternoon. All right? Sorry.

[Unidentified reporter] Why did you meet in the corridor?

[Al-Majali] Well, there was no room. Best to be in front of everybody. We do not want to have things in hiding. [end recording]

[Begin Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi recording] I wish to tell you that we came today as planned to get engaged in bilateral talks. Now, the Israeli delegation refuse to meet with us as an independent Palestinian delegation. While this is [corrects himself] ...has been accorded to us as you know in the plenary meeting in Madrid, and also on the basis that there are two-track negotiations—Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Jordanian. It is my impression that they want to blur our distinct identity as an independent Palestinian delegation. And certainly we cannot agree to this, and we insist that these negotiations will go on in the two tracks—Palestinian-Israeli track, and the Jordanian-Israeli track. Let there be no doubt about our seriousness and sincerity towards the goal of reaching a just and stable peace. Thank you. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Jordanian Insists on Two-Track Talks

*JN1012203391 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Statement by Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, spokesman for the Jordanian side of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks, to correspondent Maha al-Sha'ir in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] The biggest dispute right now is that the Israelis are insisting that they sit down with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This point has been made clear a long time ago. We have made it clear that we will sit down as a joint delegation in Madrid—we have sat down at the beginning—but then after that we should separate into two separate tracks: a Jordanian-Israeli track and a Palestinian-Israeli track. And this is not a matter of tactic, really, this is a matter of principle. We have made it clear all along that we will not negotiate on part of the Palestinians. This is a position that has been talked about and agreed upon with the Palestinians. The Palestinians, on the one hand, would like to highlight their own identity. After all, it is their own prerogative to decide the future of their own land in the West Bank and Gaza. And as Jordanians, we cannot claim to negotiate on part of the Palestinians. Therefore, this is a matter of principle that we insist on, that the negotiations should talk on two separate tracks.

## Palestinian Spokeswoman on Splitting of Delegation

*JN1012200091 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Before beginning negotiations this evening, the Arab delegations stressed their determination to discuss substantive issues immediately after agreeing on the agenda of the talks.

The heads of the Arab delegations held a meeting last night at the Palestinian delegation's place of residence to coordinate efforts among them. Moreover, the four-way coordination committee among the Arab delegations held another meeting within the framework of ongoing consultations among the Arab parties.

Informed sources in Washington expect the negotiations between the Jordanian delegation and the Israeli team on the one side, and between the Palestinian delegation and the Israeli team on the other hand, to be completely separate, although they will be held in the same hall but at different times. These sources stressed that this issue was agreed on during the Madrid talks before coming to Washington.

Replying to a question on the issue of splitting the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations in the peace talks, Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi said:

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording in English] No, I do not see why all this fuss about which room, and who goes where. The Palestinians are one national identity, the Jordanians are another national identity. They are a sovereign state, and we are also a people with a right to their self-determination. We have agreed to enter into negotiations within the framework of the joint delegation. We have done that. On our delegation, we have a Jordanian. On their delegation, they have a Palestinian. We coordinate very closely. We met them together in Madrid at the opening, and there is an agreement that after Madrid, we will proceed as two distinct identities in order to negotiate issues that are pertinent to each side separately. [end recording]

At a time when the Arab delegations express seriousness about entering negotiations that are directly related to the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Israel continues to adhere to marginal issues and procedural measures in an attempt to rally around the international consensus in support of the Middle East peace process, as represented in its demand to end talks in Washington by the end of Friday and resume them in the Middle East. The Arab delegations, however, demand that the talks continue in Washington until tangible progress on the peace process is made.

The Arab delegations taking part in the peace talks in Washington yesterday declined to hold any bilateral talks with the Israeli delegation, in observance of the beginning of the fifth year of the popular Palestinian intifadah. These delegations took part in two celebrations held at the Islamic Center and at the St. Sophia Orthodox Church in Washington, in tribute to the intifadah martyrs.

## Palestinian Negotiators on Settlements, Process

*JN0912110091 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] Manama, 9 Dec (WAKH)—On the eve of the bilateral negotiations with Israel, the Palestinian negotiators have emphasized the importance of halting settlements in the occupied Arab territories and stressed that the fate of the entire peace process hinges on stopping settlements.

Dr. Sari Nusaybah, member of the Advisory Council of the Palestinian delegation, said in an interview with the Bahrain newspaper AL-AYYAM today that the settlement issue is a strong indicator of the Israeli position on these negotiations. Israel's continuation of its settlement policy means that the negotiations will not be successful.

He explained that stopping settlement is a basic issue for us for more than one reason. It will be a signal of future Israeli intentions and a strong indicator of what the United States can do. He stressed that what applies to the occupied territories also applies to Jerusalem, whether concerning settlement or status. [passage omitted]

For his part, Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, member of the Palestinian delegation, said the peace process cannot go ahead while the settlement policy is continuing; either the settlements or the peace process should continue.

On a question about the topics that will be discussed at tomorrow's session, if it is held, Dr. 'Urayqat said in his interview with AL-AYYAM today that the Arab delegations have agreed that talks should deal with the substance and the essential issues.

He added that there are reports that the Israeli delegation is not authorized to discuss essential issues, but to discuss the venue of the negotiations. If this is true, it will prove that the Israeli Government is not at all serious toward peace and that Israel is trying all means to torpedo the peace process and to exploit the U.S. internal circumstances and the difficulties facing the administration of U.S. President George Bush in order to blackmail this administration, which is a situation that creates many problems for the Arab delegations.

Dr. 'Urayqat said there are daily Palestinian contacts with the U.S. Administration on the demolition of houses by the Israeli Government and on the confiscation of land, closure of universities, and the settlements, demanding firmer positions by the U.S. Administration toward these issues.

## Israeli Media Report Talks, Interview Delegates

### Talks Begin Without Palestinians

*TA1012161591 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The three Israeli delegations for the bilateral talks came to the State Department building in Washington about an hour ago and began talks with the Arab delegations. The talks are being held in three separate wings of the building. Our correspondents report that the discussion with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation has not yet officially started due to the dispute over the Palestinians' demand for a separate meeting. The head of the Syrian delegation said upon his arrival that Damascus is offering Israel peace for territories.

### No Solution to Room Issue

*TA1012181891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1807 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By political correspondent Arye Golan from Washington]

[Excerpts] The unofficial tripartite meeting between the heads of the Israeli and the Palestinian-Jordanian delegations—Elyaqim Rubinstein, Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, and 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali—has ended without results, and the issue of the separate room the Palestinians are demanding has not been concluded. [passage omitted] Another meeting has been set for 1600 Washington time, 2300 Israel time [2100 GMT]. [passage omitted]

## Delegates Evaluate Talks With Syria

### Olmert: 'No Progress' for Now

*TA1012195591 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1903 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By political correspondents Natan Gutman and Ya'aqov Eylon from Washington]

[Text] [Gutman] After three and a half hours, the Israeli and Syrian delegations departed, having decided to resume the talks tomorrow—not today, as the Israeli delegation suggested. The Syrians wanted to hold consultations and meet again only tomorrow.

As for what happened in the room, it is difficult to tell. The senior Syrian delegate, Mr. al-'Allaf, emerged after the meeting, voicing harsh statements:

[Begin al-'Allaf recording, in English] Well, unfortunately I cannot report to you any progress. It was rather a repetition of the same attitudes by the Israeli delegation in Madrid, trying to talk on everything except withdrawal from territory, rejecting the principle of land for peace, and insisting on issues either irrelevant or issues that are consequences of any situation of peace rather than preconditions. [end recording]

[Gutman] As for the Israeli position, let us hear delegation member Dr. Yosi Olmert, who is with us here at the broadcasting position. Has there really been no progress, merely a repetition of earlier points?

[Olmert] No, for now there is no progress, but with reference to what Mr. al-'Allaf said, I would like to say that when he employs what I would call derogatory undertones—charging that Israel raises every issue except for withdrawal—here, too, he is inaccurate. What we told him is that we must first discuss the essence of peace, what peace is. But if this is a marginal issue, then what can be more important? Beyond that, we said we can discuss any issue, of course only in the context or framework of an a priori understanding on what the purpose of this process is. I believe that this is also the logical order of things.

At any rate, the meeting lasted more than three hours and it was agreed to continue it tomorrow. I believe we must accustom ourselves to the fact that these negotiations will be lengthy and prolonged and not without recurrent crises. I would not like at this early stage to sum things up in a way that could be taken to suggest that there is nothing more to do or that nothing at all can be done. We started; let us now wait and see.

[Gutman] Did you offer the Syrians anything concrete?

[Olmert] No. There is no room for concrete proposals to Syria when it stubbornly refuses to admit the fact that the purpose of the process is a peace agreement, firmly sticking to the general and meaningless formula of peace in the Middle East. Well, the Middle East is made up of countries, not amorphous entities. That is why all these are fundamental and substantive issues. Furthermore, the Syrians continue to reiterate their stand, which in fact says that their interpretation of Resolution 242 is automatic and not subject to any negotiations whatsoever, focusing exclusively on an unequivocal demand that Israel engage in a total withdrawal. That being the case, I think we can conclude that these are extremist and uncompromising positions. Still, as I said before, we started something; let us see where it leads.

[Eylon] I have a question on a matter of both substance and technicalities—a rather fashionable combination nowadays: When you began deliberations with the Syrians, it had already been clear, in fact, that the discussions with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation were bogged down. Did the Syrians present any condition, did they hesitate to start their talks?

[Olmert] No, not at all. They did not make our talks conditional on the other talks and did not waver. The meeting with the Syrians started on time, with a possible delay of one or two minutes for marginal technical reasons. The issue of the discussions with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation was not broached in any form during our talks with the Syrians.

[Eylon] Did you feel that the Syrians were showing interest in what was happening with the Jordanian-Palestinian side?

[Olmert] I felt that they were interested in finding out what was happening with the Jordanian-Palestinian side in terms of that delegation's positions, but not in terms of what was happening in an adjoining room in the State Department was concerned.

[Eylon] How were the discussions held? Who talked, who presided over the meeting?

[Olmert] Look, we have already graduated from two meetings with the Syrians—one rather long, in Madrid; the other somewhat shorter, that is the one that ended just now. This time the meeting began with statements by the Syrian chairman and continued with our response. From that point onward, it continued in a rather fluent fashion. Allow me to break the following dramatic piece of news to you that we even had a coffee break.

[Gutman] Yosi Olmert, let me ask you one more question: Mr. al-'Allaf said after the meeting that if no progress is made, and for the moment he could see none, the parties will have to go back to the cosponsors and see what kind of suggestions they have. Could this be acceptable to Israel?

[Olmert] Of course not. This is precisely one of the main arguments we have raised against the Syrian position; namely, that instead of engaging in direct negotiations with us based on the principle of negotiations, they keep trying, at all costs, to force on us some automatic interpretation of UN resolutions which they consider as the sole basis for the talks, thereby attempting to create a deadlock which will lead to superpower intervention. Right now, and from now on, the State of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic are engaged in direct, bilateral, and inseparable talks. Period.

[Eylon] Regarding tomorrow morning, did you set a time or an agenda for the beginning of the deliberations?

[Olmert] They have been set for 1000, and we will see tomorrow what will happen. I presume we will talk tomorrow again and hear what happened in the past, not speculate on what will happen in the future.

[Gutman] Thank you very much, Dr. Yosi Olmert.

## 'No Common Ground' Found With Syria

*TA1012225091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2207 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By 'Oded Ben-'Ami from Washington]

[Excerpts] The Israelis and the Syrians met for three and a half hours on the sixth floor of the State Department today. Afterward, Mr. al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation, was unable to report progress. [passage omitted]

We reminded the Israelis, said the Syrian delegate, that the Golan Heights were taken by force and that Israel must honor Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as accept the principle of territories for peace.

Yosi Ben-Aharon, head of the Israeli delegation, on the other hand, expressed a slightly more positive attitude, even though he, too, could not report a breakthrough:

[Begin Ben-Aharon recording] We are continuing to maintain the dialogue, and it is still difficult to tell whether I can report some change. We are still in the process of exchanging views, and each side presents his positions as against the other's. [end recording]

There were no handshakes in the room itself. The only speakers throughout the meeting were the chairmen of the delegations, and no common ground from which to make progress toward some sort of understanding has been found yet. The talks between Israel and Syria will continue tomorrow at 1700 at the State Department.

## 'Gap Is Still Enormous'

*TA1112072891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[By 'Oded Ben-'Ami from Washington]

[Excerpts] When the Israeli and Syrian delegations arrive this afternoon in the conference room allotted to them on the sixth floor of the State Department building, they have two options. One option is to reiterate the same things they have said on the two previous occasions, in Madrid and here yesterday. The Syrians could say: Leave the Golan; implement Resolution 242. The Israelis could say: Announce your recognition of Israel's right to exist within defensible borders; expel the terrorist organizations from your territory; leave the Jewish community alone. That is one way, which has been tried twice and has failed. Yosi Ben-Aharon, chairman of the Israeli delegation, said that failure is probably due to the limited freedom of action given to Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, the Syrian chairman.

[Begin Ben-Aharon recording] Instead of entering into a dialogue, his tendency is to focus on those things that he is apparently permitted to discuss. We find ourselves going over the same ground to a large extent. [end recording]

There is, however, another businesslike way to conduct discussions; for instance, on the understanding of Resolution 242. The Syrians believe the resolution should be implemented: Withdraw from the Golan Heights and everything will work out. Israel, on the other hand, remembers other clauses in the resolution and insists on a Syrian readiness to recognize its right to exist within defensible borders. Such a discussion might develop into some basis of understanding, but the gap is still enormous. [passage omitted]

At the start of the meeting the two sides decided on two daily meetings.

[Begin Ben-Aharon recording] When we ended the meeting, however, al-'Allaf suddenly said: We will meet tomorrow. I told him: Wait, the day is still long. Let us meet this afternoon. He adamantly refused. It might be the result of things he was handed during our meeting about problems in the Jordanian-Palestinian context. Why am I telling you this? Because it once again shows the problem coming from Arab delegations sitting together—each watching the other and being influenced by the other. To our regret, the influence is always negative, and always leads to searching for the lowest common denominator. [end recording]

### Delegation 'Very Pleased' After Lebanon Talks

*TA1012230291 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2213 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By Gid'on Kouts from Washington]

[Text] The Israeli side is very pleased with the progress made in the talks with Lebanon. The second meeting ended just now, and an additional session was scheduled for tomorrow at 1500 Washington time, 2200 your time [2000 GMT].

What is the reason for this delay? The Lebanese want to hold consultations with their government, meaning that there is something to consult about. The problem the Lebanese delegation currently faces, as we have been told, is that it has to choose one of the two approaches: the Israeli approach, which advocates a discussion of the peace treaty first or peace arrangements in general; or the Lebanese approach, which favors a discussion of an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon first. It seems there is room for a compromise on this. [In a report at 2208 GMT, Kouts reports that when the Lebanese delegate claimed that UN Resolution 425, calling for an Israeli withdrawal, "should be honored," Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Hadas replied that "this can definitely be included in a peace agreement."]

In short, the Israeli side is pleased; the talks with Lebanon are progressing at a satisfactory pace, which is more than we had hoped for. Let us hope, people here say, the same happens with the other delegations as well.

### No Territorial Demands of Lebanon

*TA1012172991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1712 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By Gid'on Kouts from Washington]

[Text] Some news has already been leaked out of the meeting between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations, and it is positive. Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Hadas suggested to his Lebanese counterpart, the director general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry, to sign a peace treaty soon, saying that Israel has no territorial demands of either Lebanon at large or southern Lebanon in particular; that is why the parties can get right down to business.

So the talks with the Lebanese began without delay. Naturally, though, the main interest focuses on what is happening with the Jordanians and the Palestinians. The Lebanese, on the other hand, are more dependent on the Syrians. And since the talks with Syria are continuing as well, the talks with Lebanon seem to be going in the right direction. At this stage, in terms of substance, we know that Israel said it has no territorial demands and wants to sign peace.

The head of the Lebanese delegation said: We were here on 4 December and found empty chairs. Now I hope we will be able to get right down to the main task.

### Lubrani on Talks With Lebanon, UN Chief

*TA1012202891 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, cochairman of the Israeli negotiating team with Lebanon, by Ehud Ya'ari in Washington—live]

[Text] [Ya'ari] Mr. Lubrani, before discussing Lebanon I would like to ask you about your visit with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. You discussed Ron Arad and our MIA's. Is there any progress on that? From the announcement Perez de Cuellar made after meeting with you, I understand he does not have verified information about Arad's fate.

[Lubrani] I went to visit him together with my colleague Ori Slonim and Ambassador Tariv [name as heard] from our UN representation. Perez de Cuellar did not provide us with new information. The aim of the meeting was to encourage him to complete his initiative before his term expires. From our viewpoint, that means Ron Arad will be coming home. Several days still remain until his term expires, but he promised that he would do everything he can to advance it and that he would do it right away, with the assistance of his aide Giandomenico Picco.

[Ya'ari] On the talks with Lebanon, what was your impression about the hours you spent in the presence of Mr. Shammas and his six colleagues?

[Lubrani] It was a down-to-earth discussion, nothing earth-shattering. It is the start of a process of moving into gear. In my view, it will take time until we reach the substantive issues. I can only say that the atmosphere was pleasant.

[Ya'ari] Did you discuss the possibility of starting with Jazzin?

[Lubrani] No, there was not even a mention of that name.

[Ya'ari] Not even by them?

[Lubrani] Neither by them nor by us.

## Reports on Jordanian-Palestinian Talks

*TA1012234491 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2247 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Telephone conversation with Washington correspondent Ya'aqov Eylon by Oren Rosenstein in Tel Aviv]

[Excerpts] [Eylon] The Jordanian and Palestinian delegations left a few seconds ago. The differences of opinion remain, though a hint of some progress may be gleaned from what we have heard here. Still, the question of the opening of the discussion—the issue of the room—remains unresolved. It has been decided that the parties would meet again in the corridor tomorrow morning at the same time they met today. The head of the Jordanian delegation said here that he is optimistic and hopes the issue will be resolved, implying some progress. Nevertheless, no agreement has been reached yet. He also said that the possibility is being weighed—or at least the idea is being considered—of holding a brief joint opening, to be followed immediately by meetings of committees that will discuss various issues. This is something which Israel may not object to totally. Naturally, there always remain the issues of the length and character of the first meeting.

The Palestinians left immediately after the Jordanians and issued even more laconic and obscure statements. In fact, they said that nothing has been agreed upon and that an additional meeting would be held tomorrow morning at the same time.

This then concludes the second round of talks today between the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the Israeli delegation. This round lasted 1 hour and 45 minutes, and still the room behind the closed doors remains unseen. Tomorrow morning the meeting will be held in the corridor once again. [passage omitted]

[Rosenstein] Could you update us on what is expected to take place with the Syrian and Lebanese delegations tomorrow, and perhaps also sum the meetings up for us, if you have any information about what happened with their delegations today.

[Eylon] The agenda will be as follows: At 1000 Washington time, the Jordanian-Palestinian and Israeli delegations will meet in the corridor, as they did today. The Syrians and the Israelis will meet at 1000 tomorrow morning as well, at the entrance designated for this. The Lebanese and Israeli delegations, which held two meetings today, may take a short rest tomorrow and will reconvene only at 1500. No morning meetings are scheduled with the Lebanese tomorrow, and they reconvene only at 1500. [passage omitted]

### 'Good, Businesslike' Atmosphere

*TA1012222691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2206 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[By political correspondent Arye Golan from Washington]

[Text] The crisis over the rooms is currently the main, though not the only, issue the heads of the Israeli and Jordanian-Palestinian delegations are discussing. The issue of the venue for the next talks has also been raised on the informal negotiating table, as well as additional procedural and substantive questions, as even the issue of the separate rooms is significant because it indicates whether or not Israel is holding separate discussions with an independent Palestinian delegation. The differences of opinion are well known: The Arab representatives noted Israel's inflexibility when they emerged this afternoon after the first meeting. Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, on the other hand, mentioned a good, businesslike atmosphere. Israel is prepared to move at any moment from the unofficial talks in the corridors over procedural matters to a serious and in-depth discussion of substance and essence, he said.

## Netanyahu Sums Up First Day of Talks

*TA1112062091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Interview with Deputy Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by correspondent Arye Golan in Washington "this morning"—recorded]

[Text] [Golan] At this point can we say that progress has been made in the talks?

[Netanyahu] Progress lies in the fact that we met with two full-fledged delegations. Until yesterday those delegations had refused to meet with us without preconditions, but they have now dropped their objections. With the third delegation, the Jordanian-Palestinian, we are still talking in the corridor. I am confident that we will yet begin a full-fledged dialogue.

What was evident in the talks yesterday is that deliberations are being held separately with each delegation. I will not go into details of the deliberations, which are definitely not easy or simple, and which will require quite some time before any achievements are made. The achievement that I can point to in yesterday's talks, however, is that each delegation discussed its own issues separately and did not link progress on those issues to what was happening with the other delegations. This is important and, I believe, decisive for the continuation of the process.

[Golan] Mr. Netanyahu, what solution do you see for the Palestinian demand to hold separate talks with Israel? After all, at one time, Israel agreed—and official Israeli spokesmen have been reiterating as much here, in Washington—to conduct negotiations on two tracks, including an Israeli-Palestinian one. So why not do so at once?

[Netanyahu] True, we agreed to discuss two issues, those pertaining to Israel and Jordan and those pertaining to autonomy, in separate subcommittees and subgroups, and that proposal is still valid. We did not agree, however, to split the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation from the outset into two separate delegations without a unifying framework; some issues need to be discussed by the entire forum. What we see now is a unilateral Arab-Palestinian attempt to dictate a framework so that they may eventually demand a separate state in the talks about the permanent status. That is definitely unacceptable to us, and we persist in our objection to such a demand. Moreover, it seems to me that the Arabs have realized that they cannot muster international and U.S. support for their position. I think that the negotiations tomorrow will ultimately result in an agreement on the original positions that are acceptable to us.

[Golan] Will the Israeli delegation return home Thursday, or will some of its members—or all of them, maybe—stay over to continue the talks and pursue the political process?

[Netanyahu] We will decide on our next steps very soon—after consulting with the prime minister, of course. We have not yet set the final date for our return to Israel. We are making a genuine and sincere effort to make progress in the talks. The situation here differs from that at the Madrid talks. While in Madrid the Syrian delegation tried to hinder progress with the other delegations, here we are making progress with the Syrian and Lebanese delegations—albeit slowly, arduously, and with a great deal of difficulty—but are encountering difficulties—too many, in my opinion—with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. I believe we will overcome these difficulties, but I would not like to indicate at this point when we will wrap up the talks. I suppose it will be within the next few days.

### On Importance of Room Issue

*TA1012204191 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1905 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Interview with Deputy Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Ya'ir Stern in Washington—live]

[Text] [Stern] Mr. Netanyahu, what is the latest report you have on the Jordanian-Palestinian front?

[Netanyahu] You reported correctly; there was a talk between heads of delegations. The reason that it was conducted in the corridor is that we are really still battling—or debating—the issue of rooms. That is not a trivial matter, it contains a framework for a permanent solution as viewed by both sides. We reached certain agreements. We decided to meet a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, among other reasons because we view the solution to the Palestinian problem within the framework of Jordan and not in an independent Palestinian framework. We agreed on that with the Americans. We understood that the Americans also received an agreement by the Arabs to that. When we arrived here there was an attempt to change the rules. The reason we are now debating seemingly procedural issues is because the Arabs did not agree to them beforehand. Anyway, there was a discussion this morning. It will continue this afternoon, and what seems to me more important is that there is an intention to hold discussions; there is no intention to blow up the talks despite all the frustration by the other side which is not succeeding in changing the rules of the game that we insist on.

[Stern] Are the people who were in contact with the Jordanian- Palestinian delegation reporting that the Jordanians are trying to mediate between Israel and the Palestinians? Are the Jordanians playing the role of mediator or are they are sticking to the Palestinians?

[Netanyahu] I will not go into the details of the negotiations. It is obviously better for them to be conducted behind closed doors—or at the moment, in corridors. It is important, however, to say one thing: We did not express opposition today to subcommittees. I am not restricting their number to two. There might be several and on various issues. We do not at all oppose advancing these negotiations in several directions within the framework of that delegation. We are, however, definitely insisting that on the permanent solution—or at least within the framework of the discussions on the interim settlement—we will talk with one delegation, and if there are decisions on subcommittees they will be made jointly with us. That was our struggle last week. Beyond that I would like to remind you that you are discussing with me the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but we are facing a full bloc of which my colleague Uri Lubrani has just discussed one aspect. Reaching a peace treaty with our neighbors—Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria; Jordan is also part of these negotiations—is our aim and during this week we will present detailed proposals on peace treaties with those countries.

[Stern] With Syria too?

[Netanyahu] Certainly.

[Stern] What do you hear from the negotiating team with Syria? I understand that the negotiations there were down to earth and lasted several hours.

[Netanyahu] I cannot tell you that I have received a detailed report—we will receive it in the coming hour—but as you know, there are usually long talks with the Syrians, and this was no exception. I believe that what we have to understand in Israel, and here as well, is that it is not something immediate, it is a long process, with lots of frustrations, which often repeats itself. We have to get used to that. Those are the dynamics of negotiations.

[Stern] But the very fact that we are sitting and talking is something.

[Netanyahu] Yes, it is. We are in the midst of negotiations. We insisted on certain things, which were finally accepted, and I believe that is an important sign for what will follow.

## Islamic Affairs

### Leaders Continue Speeches at ICO Summit 10-11 Dec

### Transcript of King Husayn's Address

*JN1012140291 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1213 GMT 10 Dec 91*

["Recorded translation" of King Husayn's speech at the sixth Islamic summit in Dakar on 10 December—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, most gracious, and compassionate. Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining what is right, and forbidding what is wrong. They are the ones to attain felicity. Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations after receiving clear signs, for them is that dreadful penalty. [Koranic verses]

Praise be to God, Lord of the worlds, and may God's peace and blessings be on our Master Muhammad, the best of apostles and on his descendants and companions without exception.

Your excellency chairman of the conference; your majesties, excellencies, and highnesses brothers: May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you [preceding words spoken in Arabic], and may God bless you, meeting as you are in this brotherly country, united by a common faith, and by inseparable ties of love, and having as your aim the best interests of the Muslim ummah [nation]. Let us pray that this meeting will, with the help of God Almighty, deepen our sense of mutual trust, strengthen our solidarity, and create the proper conditions for improving the state of the ummah so that it may forge ahead on the road of progress, regain the past glory, and actualize its great potential. I hope too that we will carry back to our peoples such principles of thought and action as will enable them to respond adequately to the challenges brought about by the changing times to the entire world in the fields of politics, economics, science, culture, development, and administration—principles that can help create a new humanitarian trend that is capable of conveying to the world the great experience of Islam in freedom, justice, and democracy so that the world may replace despair with hope, doubts with certainty, and inequity with justice in accordance with the principles of right, freedom, and equality.

It gives me great pleasure as I speak to you on behalf of the delegation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to extend to my brother his excellency the chairman of the conference my congratulations for the confidence accorded to him by our conference, and to express my deepest regards for his excellency, who I am sure will spare no effort to enable it to attain its aims. I am also happy to be able to express my deep appreciation, and that of the Jordanian delegation for the hospitality and care extended to us as soon as we set foot on the soil of this noble country and met its dear brotherly people. Let me also use this opportunity to express my appreciation for the distinguished efforts exerted by his highness the amir of Kuwait during his chairmanship of the fifth Islamic conference and his fruitful endeavors in the cause of Islam and the Muslims.

Your excellency brothers, the ummah is now on the threshold of profound changes, as is the case with the rest of the word. And it is suffering from wounds that you all know only too well. We must all look for the cure that can heal these wounds and stop the bleeding that is sapping its energy and depleting its resources. It cannot be found except through reason, only through constructive scientific thinking, deep-rooted methodology, and careful analysis of the present and the future in the light of a truly Islamic outlook will we be able to have, in an age of global cooperation and interdependence, a new understanding that is neither too extreme nor narrow-minded of the causes of unrest and backwardness, and to identify the dimensions of the present situation properly, unhampered by the modes of traditional thinking that limit the mind, curb creativity, and stand in the face of any hopes for the future.

In preparing ourselves for the future and for the hoped-for renaissance of the ummah, it will be essential for us to arm ourselves with the highest degree of awareness, creativity, and careful planning. A new generation of scholars must be raised to teach the people the values of righteousness, and justice, and to lead them along the path of goodness in an atmosphere of tolerance and forbearance so that none amongst us will continue to complain of thirst, hunger, or misery.

These scholars should write the common history of the Muslims and highlight the wonderful contributions of the Islamic civilization in order that they may be a source of pride and inspiration for the future generations.

Advanced research centers should be also established in their present academic institutions whose task would be to analyze the causes of weakness and backwardness, and to study the prerequisites of progress and renewal. When they do so, they will find in the essence of the message of Islam such perfect truth, absolute certainty, and pure good that they will end up with the happy mixture of reason and piety enabling them to lead the people in their daily transactions without tensions or contradictions, and pave the way for them to explore the roads of modern scientific endeavor in a world in which there is no place for the isolated, but which opens all the roads for the true believers—be they leaders, the people, or scientists—to live in harmony and to establish a beacon of justice, knowledge, and tolerance among the members of each nation on the one hand, and between them and the people of other nations, on the other.

Your Excellency, Brothers: The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] did not come into existence as a result of the East-West conflict during the cold war era. Still, it is not oblivious of the international interaction that reflects the nature of the world order, the realities of world's powers, and their delicate balances. The leaders of the ummah convened in their summit conference in response to the ungodly attack against al-Aqsa mosque, perpetrated in August 1969.

Due to the awareness of the importance of cooperation, solidarity, and cohesion among our peoples, the meetings continued and their horizons expanded so that the Islamic activities were initiated in more than one area, as is the case with our periodic meetings and with the subsidiary organs and institutions established in the fields of economics, culture, information, and science and technology.

If we were to measure the success of our organization in the light of what has been achieved so far, we would have to admit that we are still at the beginning of the road to cooperation and coordination among our states and peoples. It is useless to talk about the international variables that have occurred or about the inadequacy of our efforts to be an effective part of what has happened unless, that is, we accept the challenges we are faced with to see what we can do to be an effective part of the process of change. Initially, we have to draw for ourselves clear-cut objectives and an effective strategy that can put us in the place we want. In order to do so, we must have a careful look at ourselves, bearing in mind the following words of the Almighty: "Because Allah will never change the grace which He hath bestowed on a people until they change what is in their souls, and verily Allah is he who heareth and knoweth all things."

Your Excellency, Brothers: The changes currently taking place in the international arena are bound to leave their mark on us. Our role and relative weight in this arena, however, can only be determined by our own potential. With such potential in knowledge, manpower, and natural resources we have enough to entitle us to play a distinguished role in the world of today. Our faith which is our mainstay, can guide us in the management of our internal affairs.

Since it is clear, as we study the immediate future, that our response to the challenge has much been as it should be, it is imperative on the leaders and scholars, or the ummah, to ask the basic question: What are the causes of this discrepancy between the enormous challenges and our modest responses? We should know our heritage and study it carefully. We should know ourselves and our potential. We should know the world and the changes taking place in it. We should also know that the imbalance of the world order will continue in spite of the extensive changes and the far-reaching transformations that have occurred over the last two years, and the consequent adjustments in East-West relations.

The new world order is still operating with the old instruments, tensions between state and society continue to exist, disparity between the haves and the have-nots is still apparent, selectivity regarding human rights, democracy, and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is still glaring. Besides, many states are no longer capable of providing the basic needs of the individual, let alone dealing effectively with such global problems as the environment, drugs, natural disasters, and famine.

Above all, there is a real danger that the Muslims might be described as enemies of progress and human rights, as one can gather from certain pointers here and there. You are aware, ladies and gentlemen, of the enormous challenges faced by our nation, foremost among which are the conflicts that exist among some of our states. If these conflicts continue, God forbid, they will cause further hatred among the members of this ummah, which is still suffering long decades of external aggression that appropriated its resources, divided its lands, and still occupies parts of these lands. To face these conflicts, we must seek solutions ourselves through our own organizations and institutions, and in the light of the rulers of common Islamic action.

Your Excellency, Brothers: Between the fifth session of our Islamic conference and the present one, far-reaching international events have taken place. One of these was the Gulf crisis. Whatever the causes and consequences of the crisis, it was a true catastrophe that befell the ummah. Its tragic effects were not limited to the Muslim people of Kuwait or the Muslim people of Iraq. After them, they touched other Muslim nations as well, Jordan being one of them. I thank God that we are about to put this catastrophe behind us, and no longer view it as a nightmare that threatens present, amity, and determines our future course of action. Now that we are treating its wounds and trying to consider it as part of the past, may we take it as a symptom of our weakness and disunity. Can we begin as our great religion and the traditions set by our prophet demand, to shun the causes of disunity and conflict? The people of Kuwait have suffered from this catastrophe, and the people of Iraq have suffered have suffered and are still suffering from it. They are still subjected to deprivation, and thousands of children and sick people are dying because of shortages of food and medicine. What have we done for their sake, and for the sake of the children of this ummah as we read the words of God Almighty: And verily this brotherhood of yours is a single a brotherhood, and I am your Lord and Cherisher; therefore, fear me and no other. [Koranic verse]

Brothers, the sufferings of the people of Palestine under occupation and outside Palestine have reached a critical stage. Israel, which is supported materially, demographically, militarily, and diplomatically by East and West alike, is persisting in its arbitrary, illegal policies against the civilian population of Palestine. It has placed them in psychological and economic conditions beyond the endurance of humanity, in order to dislodge them from their homeland and force them to emigrate. Meanwhile, new settlers are brought in, for whom settlements are built on Palestinian lands. National Palestinian cultural and educational institutions are systematically destroyed, places of worship desecrated, historical documents confiscated. Neither Muslim nor Christian holy places are safe from Israeli aggression. Worshipers in al-Aqsa mosque had been massacred. The latest example of aggression was the confiscation last October of records belonging to the Islamic waqf [property] and the Islamic court documenting the continuity of Muslim history in Jerusalem, and embodying the Arab Islamic nature of the city and preserving its distinctive identity as a symbol of peaceful coexistence and openness in the light of Islamic teachings and the 'Umarite Bay'ah [Umar's covenant, a pledge by the early Islamic Caliph 'Umar Bin al-Khattab to respect freedom of worship in Jerusalem when it was conquered by Muslims in the seventh century].

All of this has been happening while the Palestinians have been facing the cruelty of the occupation forces on a daily basis and suffering from the consequences of the Gulf catastrophe. Jordan, as you know, has also suffered severely from these consequences. Approximately 300,000 people, or almost 10 percent of the population of the country, returned in dire human conditions and at a time of scarcity in material as well as water resources in our country. And yet, thank God, the Jordanian people still hold fast to their belief in God, and to the values of compassion, goodness, and giving. In the midst of this calamity and soon after the Gulf war had come to a close, there appeared some hope that a solution for the Palestinian problem might be possible. Several factors were behind this, one of which was the end of the Cold War and the determination of the two superpowers to cooperate, instead of engaging in conflict, and to settle conflicts through peaceful means.

But the primary force behind this new orientation was, and still is, the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their resistance to the occupation, together with the wisdom of the Palestinian leadership, represented by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people which has been shouldering its historical responsibilities vis-a-vis their future generations.

Your support, together with that of all peace and justice-loving forces in the world, has also been invaluable. While our ummah always supports peace based on right, the kind of peace that safeguards mutual security and coexistence and lays solid foundations for international relations, it must be able to stand up to the challenges of the times, including the search for a just, permanent, and comprehensive peace which preserves for it rights in its own land and guarantees its people their national rights, and makes her an active participant in maintaining peace throughout the world.

In the words of the Holy Koran: And strive in His cause as you ought to strive with sincerity and under discipline. He has chosen you and has imposed no difficulties on you in religion. It is the cult of your father Abraham. It is He who has named you Muslims both before, and in this revelation; that the messenger may be a witness for you and you be witnesses for mankind. So establish regular prayers, give regular charity, and hold fast to Allah. He is your protector, the best to protect and the best to help. [Koranic verse]

Your Excellency, Brothers: The main features of this settlement, which is based on international legitimacy, have been clearly delineated in President Bush's speech to a joint session of the American Congress on March 6 1991. The settlement is to be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the exchange of land for peace, and the safeguarding of the national rights of the Palestinian people and the security of the region. Thus, this settlement is to be built on parallel principles; justice and security.

One of the meanings we understand from this formula is the return of the occupied territories, foremost among which is Arab Jerusalem, to their rightful owners, and international recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people to exercise self-determination on their national soil, and the recognition of their historical rights in their land. This is why the peace process, supervised by both the United States and the Soviet Union, has envisaged a two-track approach; a Palestinian-Israeli track, and an Arab-Israeli track. We are satisfied with this formula and the concepts and principles it implies and have done all in our power to facilitate its initiation.

To forestall any objections by the extremist Israeli leadership against this formula, we agreed to provide the Palestinian delegation with an umbrella within the framework of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, provided that this arrangement met with the approval of our Palestinian brethren, and that they would undertake to deal with the Palestinian dimension in the peace process themselves. This is indeed what happened.

The Madrid conference was convened late last October, availing the Palestinian people of the opportunity of putting forth their just cause through the joint delegation in front of the world, a cause that had been distorted and misrepresented for decades on end. The well-balanced, dignified performance of the Palestinian delegation was most effective in rectifying the picture and presenting the struggle of the Palestinian people and the justice of their legitimate, national demands.

The peace process also envisages multilateral negotiations in which the states of the region, as well as others, will discuss the regional and international aspects of the chronic Middle East conflict, which has involved such causes of conflict as population problems, refugees, water resources, and the arms race, all of which have become a regional as well as international cause of concern.

If politically, the Palestinian problem has developed in such a way as to seem to be a problem for the people of Palestine alone, in reality it is an Arab-Islamic problem. Its solution requires active Arab-Islamic involvement. Any settlement must be based on justice and legitimacy. The rights of the Palestinian people must be restored. Cooperation, mutual understanding, and collective responsibility are essential if we are to reach a settlement that future generations will accept and defend.

Proceeding from firm principles and clear-headed policies, we have decided to participate in all stages of the peace process which will all lead to one thing, the restoration of all occupied territories in Palestine, especially Arab Jerusalem, Jordan, the Golan Heights, and Lebanon, in exchange for peace and security for all—what has come to be known as the land-for-peace formula.

But, this process cannot proceed in the right direction or reach its objectives without the Arab parties concerned, particularly the Muslim Arab nation of Palestine, receiving your full support.

As for the other Muslim causes, Jordan is committed, as always, to cooperate with all Islamic efforts based on the principles of our religion and international legitimacy. Comprehensive Islamic cooperation cannot be fully and effectively achieved without devoting special attention to the economic, cultural, and social objectives which touch the lives of the people and safeguard their right to express themselves freely and creatively.

One of the first things to be taken into consideration is the recognition of the changes taking place in the modern world, particularly the ever-accelerating discoveries of science and technology. The role played by science and technology in all walks of life, especially in economic development, is of the utmost importance. For, the gap between us and the industrialized world is widening, and close cooperation in these areas is absolutely essential as an attempt to bridge this gap through which most of the evils that beset us are filtering.

Your Excellency, Brothers: Drawing upon my modest but long experience in office, I would like to share with you a few specific ideas delineating what I take to be the main features of a plan for a renaissance of the Muslim world. First, since political action begins and ends with man, it must include a full recognition of the dignity of man and his right to think freely and creatively, and to participate in determining his own fate and future. Second, since the good of the community necessitates justice, democracy becomes essential in building the just society to ensure the widest participation in thought and action in the progress toward the achievement of human rights, and freedom and equality. Principles inculcated by Islam which views them as natural drives to be regulated only through divine guidance. Putting these principles into practice requires a fully integrated system that takes into consideration the cultural and economic challenges that stand in the way of their implementation. It also requires some sort of balance between the desire for freedom and the search for social justice. Third, the single state is no longer capable of dealing with problems of its citizens alone, however strong and influential it may be. For, there are regional and international dimensions in this age of mutual interdependence which go beyond the horizons of the institutions of single states. Consequently, cooperation and openness among Islamic countries is essential. For, openness, cooperation, consultation, mutual trust, and awareness of, and commitment to, the common interests are the basic components of an acceptable degree of integration and of the desired renaissance. Fourth, the most prominent causes of disagreement among us are the regional and boundary conflicts among our states. Therefore, a comprehensive Islamic plan must be drawn to settle these conflicts and differences. The plan should be formulated by a committee of arbitrators aided by a consultative body of Muslim experts distinguished for their expertise in politics and law. Fifth, one of the most daunting challenges that we must not sidestep is the formulation of a comprehensive development plan that covers the entire ummah. A plan that relies on the ummah's own rich and varied resources. Any such plan should take into consideration such issues as security and progress, problems emanating from antiquated educational and administrative systems, foreign debt, regional conflicts, scientific and technological backwardness, ineffective agricultural practices, and environmental problems. All of this requires a unified culture, clarity of vision, awareness of common interests, and of the changes taking place in the modern world, and a deep understanding of the rhythm of the times. In other words, I am calling for the formulation of a strategy of survival and progress, and for the fulfillment of the message of Islam whose teachings are needed by the new generation more than ever.

I am confident that our ummah will start a new process of stock- taking, of reviewing and assessing the present situation in the light of the modern age, which requires hard work on our part if we are to achieve progress, dignity, and security for the ummah; and if we are to revive its humane image and revitalize its distinctive cultural identity as it marches forward confidently, draws comprehensive plans to spread its message in the world, to achieve solidarity, protect its rights, and rise to the mark of honor that God has reserved for it when he made it the best of all nations.

Your Excellency, Brothers: Who is better in peace than one who calls men to Allah, works righteousness and says: I am of those who bow in Islam. Nor can goodness and evil be equal. Repel evil with what is better then will he between whom and thee was hatred become as it were thy friend and intimate. [Koranic verse as heard]

May God lead us to what He approves. May He guide us all to the straight path.

May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. [preceding words spoken in Arabic]

### Comparison to Transcript of King's Address

*JN1012194291*

Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic at 1837 GMT on 10 December carries the 42-minute "full recording of the political speech" King Husayn delivered in Arabic before the Islamic Conference Organization summit in Dakar. This version has been compared with the Amman Radio English version published above, revealing the following variations:

Jordan Television Arabic omits the first and second paragraphs.

Paragraph three, sentence two reads: ...be upon you, and may God...(deleting editorial notation);

Paragraph three, sentence two reads: ...of the Muslim nation. Let us pray...(changing "ummah" to "nation" and wherever it appears throughout the above item, deleting editorial notation);

Paragraph four, sentence two reads: ...dear brotherly people. The convocation of the Islamic summit, for the first time, south of the Sahara Desert and on this part of the black continent whose roots are deeply embedded in history, in tribulations, and in hope is an important event which has deep meanings. This is true particularly as the world is on the threshold of a new stage, which our Islamic nation cannot remain on the sidelines of or have no influence on or be influenced by. I believe that the cloudless era to which we have been aspiring for decades, and which we have not reached because we have failed to mobilize our ranks, seems to materialize now in the African faces which are pure, sincere, and patient, which have not been tarnished by the crust of a fake civilization and whose aspirations have not been wiped out and who have not been wrested from the roots of its virgin forests. Let me also...(supplying additional material, picking up sentence three);

Same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...and the Muslims. I also take this opportunity to greet and congratulate the Islamic Republic of Azerbaijan for joining the ICO and the Republic of Albania for being accepted as an observer in this organization. [new paragraph]

Your excellency, brothers... (supplying additional material, picking up paragraph five, first sentence);

Paragraph thirty-three, last sentence reads: ...of all nations. [new paragraph]

In conclusion, we beseech God that ourselves and you will be among those who have done virtue and spoke and worked for the benefit of the homeland and the nation. This will be judged by history and our future generations, which, I hope, we will leave for them amity, not hatred; unity, not division; solidarity, not estrangement; and the rising above wounds, not continuing to peel off the scab from them and cause them to bleed. We are quite assured by the fact that God judges intentions and knows what one holds in his heart. Throughout our life, we have always been concerned about the interests of the nation in all of its states. We will continue to be the same, God willing, in our relations with our Arab and Muslim brothers, taking into account, as we have always done, the interests of our nation and the nobility of keeping relations among its sons above every difference and dispute. The greatest leaders are the ones who have left, and leave for their peoples, the ability to love, not hate. Neither history nor future generations will forgive any of us who does not adopt this principle as the basis for leadership and a noble objective which must be protected. The judgment of history and the future generations will be in favor of those who have sacrificed to keep the homeland one and united, and to keep the fabric of the nation intact, where no temptation of tutelage can drive us, no sedition can fragment us, and no fighting can divide us. We ask God to make us among those, whom judgment will be in their favor and not against them, in what we have said and done. God, you are the all-hearing, ready to answer. [new paragraph]

Your Excellency, Brothers... (supplying additional material; picking up paragraph 34, sentence one)

## Iranian President Views Muslim Problems

*LD1012221291 Tehran IRNA in English 1258 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, Dec. 10, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of Iran here Tuesday enumerating problems faced by the Muslim world including the Palestinian question said no hopes should be placed on negotiations with the Zionist regime.

Addressing Muslim leaders on the second day of the Dakar Islamic summit conference, he said Israel continues with her bullying practices, including establishment of Jewish settlements while reluctant to negotiate and withdraw from the occupied territories. "The result of negotiation with such a regime would be giving legitimacy to an illegitimate regime in the heart of Islamic land." Anytime Muslim countries have been flexible towards Tel Aviv, the Zionist regime has become more demanding and more aggressive and has gone further with her expansionist goals with the financial and military backing of Washington, he said. Cautioning the Islamic countries against the consequences of their negotiation with Israel, the Iranian president said continuation of intifada is the only way to restore rights of the Palestinian people. He urged Muslim states to render generous support until the liberation of al-Qods al-Sharif [Jerusalem].

On Afghanistan, the president called for establishment of "an Islamic, independent and non-aligned Afghanistan." Since the start of the crisis Iran has maintained the view that the territorial integrity of the country must be preserved and their right to self-determination be respected, he said.

As for the problem of Lebanon, he deplored the continued Zionist aggression and massacre of Muslims. South Lebanon must be liberated from the Zionist occupation through the coordinated action of all Islamic and national forces, he stressed.

Turning to the Persian Gulf crisis, the president said the Islamic Republic of Iran condemned the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, opposed any change in political geography of the region and deplored presence of foreign forces. Regional problems must be settled "through close cooperation among the regional states... a lasting peace and stability in this strategically vital region can only be restored through active cooperation of all countries." It has been tested in the case of Palestine that the arrogant powers put the interests of the Zionists over that of the Muslims, he added. "Reliance on arrogant powers, the United States in particular, contradicts the lofty interests of the Islamic umma."

On issue of human rights, he told heads of state and government from the 45-member OIC [Islamic Conference Organization—ICO] that human diginity and human rights must be given a special status in the future order of the world. He called for an appropriate approach to the issue which maintains the Islamic identity and is characterized by social and cultural values of Islamic countries. "Maintaining and strengthening of the Islamic identity and cultural values of the world of Islam at present age require the appropriate international tools and instruments."

On the subject of environment, the Iranian president said the industrialized countries should take the responsibility for the major part of the environment destruction and take measures to halt further damage. "They should not expect the poor people of the developing countries to compensate."

"The trend of environment destruction has seriously endangered the mankind" and the depth of the tragedy is such that it requires collective cooperation, thorough thinking and exchange of views for taking common measures, he said.

On question of women's right, he said: "The Islamic countries should provide safe conditions for participation of women in scientific, cultural and sports competitions as well as participating in international economic, social and political scene." The mass media in Islamic countries should be programmed in a manner so as to absorb the committed and faithful women to take a role in reflecting the achievements of their Islamic societies. "Unfortunately there is not a specific framework for the purpose of education and activities of women in the Islamic societies which could be compatible with our religious thoughts and beliefs." As a result, he added, half of the Islamic umma was being kept inactive and their talents neglected. Muslim families where the women have a leading role should be defended against the destructive influence of the Western culture, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

Turning to the new world order following the collapse of communism he said its "success will depend on certain basic mechanisms and a suitable atmosphere in which the developing and the least developed countries may be able to exploit their material capabilities and human resources in the best possible manner.

"There is no doubt that along with the political developments, international relations and the international economic order should also go under fundamental changes, on the basis of mutual interest." The new world order, continued the Iranian president, should take into account that poverty is the most important factor behind any crisis and should make efforts to eliminate it. It should create opportunities for healthy competiton among different economic groupings, among the Islamic countries in particular, and should provide necessary conditions for talks between the developed and developing countries—north and south. The new order should be able to halt the flow of capital and human and material resources from the developing nations to the developed countries, he said, and that the international community should guarantee the balance between the price of raw materials in the Third World countries and the manufactured goods in the industrialized world. That conditions be created for transfer of technology from the industrialized countries to the developing states.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the OIC should work towards getting the member countries to coordinate efforts to convince the international organizations and developed countries to help Islamic world find its proper position in the world.

He said the markets of the industrialized countries are prospering while that of the developing states are being plundered. Proper actions should be taken to end this unfair situation, he added. The Iranian president called for giving priority to Islamic countries in the sphere of economic cooperation, and asked: "Why should not we use the capabilities existing in the Islamic countries, instead of looking to the imperialist world?"

The president appealed to the OIC members to avoid disputes and work towards Islamic unity. The potential of the Islamic world will materialize only with solidarity, he stressed. "Why should not we use an arbitration committee, as provided in the context of OIC, with an empowered and more efficient executive power? Such a committee can play an effective role to settle disputes among Islamic countries rather than allowing them to be chronic." He said the experience of the past two years has shown that realization of international peace and security requires reaching a common understanding on the issues of peace and security, promoting "constructive talks" among members of the world community, recognizing the factors behind regional crises, guaranteeing political equality of world countries, respecting people's sovereignty in their self-determination, launching collective efforts for global disarmament with no discrimination, eliminating weapons of mass destruction and preventing production and stockpiling of such weapons. Till materialization of these conditions, the Muslims should remain alert, cautioned Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The enemies are using different means and levers to impose their views on Muslims, he said adding that the Islamic umma could equally employ their enormous powers and resources such as oil to help materialize their legitimate goals. Had these means been exploited properly, Muslims in Palestine, Lebanon, Kashmir, Afghanistan and the Philippines would not have suffered so much, said the Iranian president. "You have seen the leverages they used to help the Baltic countries in the Soviet Union to achieve independence. What have we done with our resources to help the Soviet Muslim republics...When they use their leverages against us to serve their evil intentions, we should use our powers and resources for the realization of our legitimate goals," he told the gathering of Muslim leaders.

At the end, the president of the Islamic Republic expressed hope that the Islamic community will witness grandeur and dignity of Muslims and their presence in world affairs and decision-making.

## Iranian President on Persian Gulf Security

*LD1012224191 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Report by unidentified correspondent on address by Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the Islamic Conference Organization summit in Dakar on 10 December; Hashemi-Rafsanjani remarks recorded]

[Excerpts] [Hashemi-Rafsanjani] During the Persian Gulf crisis, when the trend of peace negotiations with the Iraqi Government was of extreme sensitivity, the Islamic Republic of Iran condemned the agression and rejected any change in the region's political geography. This was in line with the principles and norms of the sacred Islamic shari'a and within the overall framework of its foreign policy, being inspired by the teachings of our late imam and the guidance of Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of our revolution. It also warned the regional countries against the increase in and continuation of the military presence of foreign forces in the region. [passage omitted]

Attaching importance to maintaining Persian Gulf security has lead our country now to believe that the region's problems can only be solved within the framework of close cooperation among its countries. Lasting security and stability in this region, which is so vital for the world, cannot be achieved without the active participation of all countries. Too much confidence is of importance to me in my debate. Placing too much confidence in arrogant powers, especially the United States, is against the higher interests of the Islamic ummah. Those who have been tested with regard to the Palestine problem—those who have proved that they place the interests of a handful of Zionists above the interests of the great Isamic ummah—cannot be suitable friends.

[Correspondent] Referring to the expansionist aims of the Zionist regime and the need to strengthen the Islamic revolution of the people of Palestine, the republic president said:

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Our greatness and dignity depend on realizing the legitimate and historic demands of the heroic Palestinian nation. Palestine today is going through the most sensitive and yet bitterest phases of its history. To that end, any negligence on our part will undoubtedly have cosequences which will afflict the coming generations of the Islamic ummah. [passage omitted]

At a time when the bullying and racist Zionist regime has adopted the most intransigent position, declaring arrogantly that it is not ready to have talks on the honorable Qods, the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank; and while it continues to absorb Jewish immigrants and it goes on to implement its policy of building towns and settling Jews in the occupied territories, how can one have hope in the results of such an intransigent regime? How can one be hopeful about the outcome of negotiations with such an intransigent regime? Would not negotiations with such a regime result in granting legitimacy to its illegitimate existence in the heart of the Islamic territories? It has been experienced—proven experience—that whenever Islamic countries have shown flexibility and pliability toward the occupying Qods regime, the latter has increased its illegitimate demands and conditions. Israel, which has an aggressive nature, has never been satisfied with all the Islamic lands she occupies, and she seeks opportunities to fulfill her expansionist desires and to continue her aggressions against Islamic countries and grab their strategic resources. She has not hesitated in her endeavors to achieve such a goal during the length of its illegitimate life. Presently, too, Israel is taking steps toward this objective with the assistance of the United States, which is the biggest country giving her financial and military support. In our opinion—this is the opinion of the Islamic Republic I am conveying—in our opinion, it is in the interest of Islamic countries that, while they remain alert and prepared to confront such objectives, they should refrain from trying those things that have already been tried. They should not set their hopes on the fruitless negotiations which they have had up to now, and they should be weary of any kind of optimism they may have toward the outcome of talks with such an enemy. Continuing the all-embracing jihad, strengthening the intifadah, and continuing the struggles are the only ways that the rights of the oppressed people of Palestine can be fulfilled. Islamic countries are dutybound to give every kind of support to this uprising and blessed jihad by utilizing their resources and organizing a strong front until the liberation of noble Qods and helping to establish an independent government of Palestine in the whole of Palestine.

Emphasizing fraternal Islamic principles and the commitments that are inspired by the Holy Koran and on the basis of its Islamic mission to defend Muslims throughout the world, without hesitation, the Islamic Republic of Iran deems itself dutybound to express once again its deep concern about what is happening in Kashmir and to call for an end to the oppression of the Muslim people of that region and the realization of the just and legitimate rights of the people of Kashmir.

[Correspondent] The president reiterated Iran's fundamental stands about Afghanistan. He said:

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] We call for an Islamic, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan with friendly relations with her neighbors. From the start, we have stressed that Afghanistan's territorial integrity and the right of her people to determine their own fate should be safeguarded. Although Lebanon has achieved relative peace after decades of bloody and regrettable clashes between her children and the waste of her huge resources because of civil wars, one still sees repeated acts of aggression by Zionist soldiers in southern Lebanon. Everyday one sees a number of people, including innocent women and children, massacred in that country. While fully supporting the unity and territorial integrity and independence and the right of all the people to determine the fate of Lebanon, we believe that southern Lebanon would be free of Zionist occupation if only, with coordination and joint action, Islamic and national forces place resisting against the Zionist forces at the top of their priority list. [passage omitted]

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

## Support for Turkish Cypriot Cause Urged

*TA1012170891 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1600 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar (A.A)—President Turgut Ozal on Tuesday called on Moslem countries for their support in the full adhesion of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) to the Organization of Islamic Conference (ICO).

President Turgut Ozal arrived here on Sunday to attend the 6th summit meeting of the ICO.

In an address on Tuesday, Ozal said Turkey will continue to support TRNC and trusts the new secretary general of the United Nations Butros Ghali to bring a solution to the Cyprus problem, within the frame of the Security Council's Resolution Number 649.

He also thanked Moslem countries for their support to Turkey in defending the rights of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria and expressed hope that this support will continue until their problems are finally solved.

Ozal said contrary to the situation in Bulgaria, Greece continues to deny their basic human rights, and Turkey once again calls for respect of human and minority rights by Greece.

Ozal said Turkey fully supports all efforts in the Middle East peace process and believes all sides will show goodwill and flexibility.

He said economic cooperation is the best way for peace and balance in the world and the ICO's economic strategies should be revised in the light of new world and regional developments.

## Pakistani Prime Minister Speaks

*BK1012165691 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has proposed at the sixth Islamic summit at Dakar a four-point plan for economic integration of Muslim countries, collective security, a mechanism for peaceful resolution of disputes, and ensuring the rights of Muslim minorities. Addressing the summit today, he advocated creation of an Islamic common market for economic integration of Muslim countries. The ICO committee on commerce and economic cooperation has already adopted a framework agreement on trade and preferential system.

Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif called on the ICO to commit itself to peace and security by developing a mechanism for the peaceful resolution of disputes and by implementing disarmament. He called for ratification of the agreement on an Islamic court of justice and for creation of a mechanism for conciliation, mediation, and arbitration for peaceful resolution of disputes. He suggested banishing of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, through regional and global regimes. In this context, the prime minister referred to his proposal earlier this year regarding consultations between the United States, the Soviet Union, China, India and Pakistan to ensure nuclear nonproliferaton in South Asia, besides a number of other proposals made by Pakistan.

Thirdly, the prime minister suggested a consolidated fund for collective security of the ICO to be drawn up by pooling of resources of the ummah to defend itself against aggression. In this regard, he referred to recommendations made on the subject by a group of experts from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, and Gambia.

Fourthly, the prime minister called on the ICO to play its part in ensuring the rights of more than 300 million Muslims living as minorities in other countries around the globe. Their human rights are violated and their mosques and madrasa's [mosque schools] threatened. The ICO should effectively monitor the conditions of these Muslims and submit a report to the next conference of foreign ministers.

Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif also spoke of a program of comprehensive reforms launched by his government in Pakistan to bring about sweeping transformation of the economy by doing away with state control to bring about the free market system.

Turning to Kashmir dispute, the prime minister described it as the greatest potential threat to peace and security in South Asia which is still awaiting a peaceful settlement. He said the essence of the dispute lies with the denial by India the right to self- determination to the people of Kashmir mandated by Security Council resolutions. The people of occupied Kashmir, he said, are engaged in their valiant struggle to determine their destiny.

On Afghanistan, the prime minister said the efforts for a peaceful and just political settlement of this issue had entered a critical phase. He reiterated Pakistan's desire for an early political settlement and recalled its diplomatic initiatives. He assured full support to the UN secretary general's efforts in this connection.

Turning to the Middle East, the prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's well-known position that there can be no stable peace there without the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab and Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including Al-Quds al-Sharif and restoration of national rights of Palestinian people. He hoped that the peace process set in motion at the Madrid peace conference would lead to a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. The prime minister reiterated Pakistan's abiding commitment to African countries and referred to several programs launched by it for relief and assistance to the people of these countries.

Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said we must ensure that emerging international order is based on the strict adherence to the principles of the UN Charter, particularly the principles of sovereign equality, self-determination, peaceful settlement of disputes, nonuse of force, and noninterference in internal affairs. These principles, he added, should be observed universally and not selectively.

### Lebanese President on Reconstruction

*NC1012180591 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi addressed the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] meeting in the afternoon. He focused on the issue of the south, saying it is Lebanon's topmost issue. Al-Hirawi said that the south is not a domestic Lebanese affair. He said that the government has made strenuous efforts to secure the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425, in all its clauses. The Lebanese Government is coordinating with brothers and consulting with friends to seek backing on that matter, he added.

President al-Hirawi reiterated that Lebanon's decision to participate in the peace conference was based on three principles: that the issue of the south will be separated from that of the Middle East; that Lebanon is committed to the consensus of [Arab] brothers; and that Lebanon wishes to encourage international efforts to bring about a just and comprehensive peace.

President al-Hirawi said that true security is more than military measures, for it requires comprehensive development efforts.

President al-Hirawi told the conference: We seek your support for our construction plans. Lebanon hopes for ICO cooperation in launching the international fund for reconstructing Lebanon.

### 'Text' of Syrian Vice President's Address

*JN1112064991 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2118 GMT 10 Dec 91*

["Text" of the speech by Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam at the sixth Islamic summit in Dakar on 10 December—read by announcer]

[Text] Mr. Chairman of the conference; Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses; Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure to convey to you the best greetings of President Hafiz al-Asad and his warm wishes for our conference to succeed in achieving the objectives for which it convenes.

It is also my pleasure to thank His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, and through him, the government and people of Senegal, for the warm welcome they have accorded us since our arrival in this friendly country, and for all the efforts they are making to create the best conditions for the convening the conference.

During the period between this conference and the last, the world has witnessed radical changes, beginning with an agreement on strategic arms reduction between the United States and the USSR. Developments have also accelerated at a pace that no one had imagined. The cold war has ended and the Warsaw pact collapsed, thus leading to the collapse of the balance between world powers.

The world is now experiencing a new, unique situation in the history of mankind whereby the balance between two superpowers is absent and the United Nations, in its various institutions, could not manage to constitute a realistic alternative to the previous state of balance.

Although world countries have all welcomed the end of international tension and the end of the cold war, they are now facing disturbing questions about their future and the fate of their national independence, for which they have fought for a long time, and given great sacrifices. These nations are today living in a state of anxiety and fear in an international disequilibrium where only one country has all the elements of power.

These international changes were accompanied by a regression in the economies of Third World nations, an increase in their indebtedness, and a retreat in their capabilities to achieve economic growth so as to meet their basic needs and provide the minimum conditions for a decent living.

The gap has widened between two worlds: a world rich in its economic, scientific, and technical capabilities; and a world that cannot find enough resources to eke out a living. This serious situation threatens us with the return of the powers of international exploitation that seek to control human and natural resources of Third World nations, which means erasing a rich and important phase of human history and ushering in a new phase of struggle.

The Islamic world, represented in our countries, is facing all the negative remnants and consequences of international changes by virtue of its being an important part of this world. In addition to this confrontation, there is another challenge facing us that targets Islamic culture, civilization and values.

Islam was the major factor behind the progress of our peoples and other world nations throughout various important stages in human history. It was also responsible for achieving justice, equality, and lifting injustice. Today, in a world that lacks justice and equality, Islam remains the important factor in facing the fateful challenges to the Islamic world.

The campaign launched against Islam targets the will of liberation experienced by the Islamic world, as well as the development and awakening for which our peoples are struggling.

International Zionism and certain intellectual and political schools, which still harbor grudges against Islam, stand behind this campaign that aims at uprooting our values, principles, and culture. They seek to replace them with different values, principles, and culture to cloud our identity, principles, and ethos.

Mr. Chairman: Amid these international developments, the situation has become worse and more complicated in an important region of the Islamic world. The Iraqi forces' invasion of Kuwait, the material and psychological losses of Iraq, the depletion of the Gulf region, the fragmentation of Arab relations, and weakening of Islamic states, led to a tragic condition and horrid and grave consequences. We should work, with all our capabilities, to contain these results and consequences, and prevent a repeat of such an insane and destructive act.

This invasion exacerbated conditions in the arena of the Arab-Israeli conflict. For Israel has worked and is still working to make profit and reap fruits, taking advantage of the deteriorated conditions in the Arab and Islamic worlds. The way in which Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was ended has created a feeling on the part of the international community regarding the need to achieve peace in the Middle East on the basis of international legitimacy.

U.S. President George Bush put forward an initiative to create a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. We studied this initiative, and after several discussions with the United States and the USSR, we accepted that initiative, out of our understanding that it will lead to a comprehensive withdrawal by the Israeli occupation troops from all occupied Arab territories, including holy Jerusalem, and to guaranteeing the Palestinian people's national rights.

Syria has always called for establishing a comprehensive and just peace, asserting that peace cannot coexist with occupation and aggression, and that justice does not coexist with usurpation of territory and rights.

The Israeli enemy's rejection of the principle of withdrawal, its continued building of settlements, its denial of national rights of the Palestinian people, and its attempt to tear apart the national identity of this fraternal people, confirm that its policies, objectives, and activities emanate from the fundamental principles of the Zionist movement that aims at establishing Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.

The Israeli acceptance of withdrawal from the occupied territories and recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people constitute a departure from the principles of the Zionist movement—something the Israelis do not tolerate, cannot do, and do not seek. Therefore, they are placing obstacles before peaceful efforts through their pursuance of the settlement policy, which reflects their refusal to withdraw from the occupied territories, while they realize that no Arab country accepts, or can possibly condone, relinquishing one inch of the occupied territory or a single right of the Palestinian people's rights.

They talk about Israel's security and the right of the Soviet Jews to emigrate to Palestine. But what about the security of the Arab and Islamic states and the Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese who had been expelled from the land of their fathers and forefathers and who are living in the worst of conditions as homeless refugees? How can the Soviet Jew have the right to the Palestinian land, which is not his land or the land of his fathers, while the natural right of the Palestinian, the Syrian, and the Lebanese to his land and the land of his father and forefathers be denied?

Israel's possession of nuclear weapons and the most modern conventional and nonconventional weapons constitutes an ongoing incentive for aggression and a major obstacle to the peace process.

The campaign directed against the Arab and Islamic states' possession of the means of self-defense and the blockade campaign against these states reflect the failure to adopt one standard in the present international situation. The poisonous and feverish campaign launched against the Arab and Islamic states, which seeks to prevent them from possessing the means of self-defense at a time when they take no note of Israel's nuclear arsenal and enormous military capability, aims at making us weak, and unable to defend ourselve and incapable of making decisions that serve our interests, protect our rights, and preserve our dignity. Besieging the Arabs and preventing them from possessing the means of self-defense at a time when Israeli military power is on the increase, cannot provide a driving force for peace. If certain people think that the current imbalance in military power between us and Israel will push us to the position of defeat and capitulation, then they are living a great illusion because the will to stand fast and survive and to have hope in the future and the Arab nation, together with the Islamic world's will to live in dignity and freedom, constitute the most important factor for achieving the balance with the forces of evil and aggression.

The road to peace is clear; namely, commitment to UN resolutions and respect for international legitimacy. Any discussion about establishing peaceful relations between the Israeli enemy and the Arab states under the shadow of the occupation constitutes an additional motive for the Israeli government to continue its intransigence and its rejection of the logic of the international legitimacy. Calling on this or that side to establish what they call confidence-building measures with the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and Israel's refusal to recognize the Palestinian people's rights mean giving Israel through political means what it failed to realize by military force.

The claim that the settlement of regional problems will encourage Israel to adopt the course of peace means embroiling the Arab countries into giving the Israelis peace without guaranteeing they will get land.

The call for discussing peaceful relations under occupation is an Israeli idea and condition; it is an implementation of Shamir's theory—peace for peace. We call on all Arab and Islamic states to beware of this trap, which is being set for the region. There has never been a case throughout history in which the aggrieved party agrees to organize its relations with the enemy, who continues to occupy its land.

Syria participated in the Madrid peace conference in light of a clear and specific concept; that is, the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 with all their prerequisites. Syria will continue to proceed with the peace process on these bases, the very bases of the invitation to convene the peace conference.

We are aware that the Israelis will maneuver, will place all obstacles and barriers, and will provoke the Arab side to push it to positions that will make it responsible for obstructing the peace process before the world. We will confront these attempts and will neither enable the Israelis to attain their objectives nor let them achieve gains at the expense of Arab rights and interests.

The Islamic governments' and nations' support for Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine constitutes an important factor in support of our struggle to liberate all occupied Arab territories, particularly holy Jerusalem, and restore the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Chairman: As the Israelis stand in the face of the peaceful trends of the international community, place obstacles and barriers, and coerce the Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese, who are under occupation—and while Israel defies the resolutions of the Security Council and international legitimacy—attempts are being made to give Israel more rewards for its stands and policies. At the top of these rewards are the U.S. efforts to cancel the UN resolution that equates Zionism with racism. Meanwhile, no new factor has emerged to change the reasons which led the General Assembly to adopt this resolution. The aggression has continued; segregation has continued; racism continues to be the basis of the state; and racist coercion is at its peak.

The cancellation of the resolution is a serious precedent in the life of the international organization. This will endanger people's rights, undermine UN credibility, and annul the UN role as a defender of people's rights.

Such efforts confirm the recourse to various yardsticks in tackling problems of the same nature, and this is not a positive sign that serves peace.

Mr. Chairman: The Islamic world is asked today to defend itself and realize the dangers that surround it. At the same time, the Islamic world is asked to bear a political and principled responsibility toward Holy Jerusalem.

Jerusalem was behind the establishment of the Islamic Conference Organization. Jerusalem is today a test of the ICO's solidarity and its ability to defend its objectives. A decisive Islamic stand on the issue of Jerusalem, occupation, and aggression is dictated by the historical stage through which we pass. It is a must that this conference sends a clear signal that the Muslim World does not accept, and can never accept, any harm to Arab sovereignty over Holy Jerusalem.

Syria has accepted to participate in the peace process out of its awareness of the importance of achieving a just and comprehensive peace. Inasmuch as it realizes the importance of achieving peace, Syria asserts its determination to liberate every inch of the occupied territories and to regain the national rights of the Palestinian people.

We are aware of the difficulties and obstacles facing the peace process by the Israeli enemy. We are also aware that the Israelis will create many difficulties along this path, but we assert the impossibility of accepting to enable the Israeli enemy to impose its conditions, because there is a great difference between peace and capitulation.

There is no power on earth that is capable of imposing capitulation on us. Also, there is no power on earth that can conquer a people who are determined to defend their rights and safeguard their dignity.

Mr. Chairman: The problems of the Islamic world are many and diverse. Foremost among these problems are the issues relating to independence, sovereignty, and economic development. We believe that through solidarity, cohesion, and cooperation, we can better face these problems.

Dependence on the principles of cooperation, solidarity, and cohesion among our countries and practical foundations to crystallize our cooperation is now necessary for all of us. Searching for a formula that prevents conflicts and disputes among our countries and directs our energies toward serving our people is, therefore, a pressing need necessitated by the nature of the new international stage the world is experiencing.

Our emphasis on solidarity, cooperation, and cohesion does not mean that we are advocating a new international order or calling for tearing the Third World apart. We seek to make this cooperation and solidarity a power that enables us to face international developments and restore confidence among Third World nations so as to cooperate internationally toward establishing global peace, security, and prosperity.

### 'Arafat Urges Support for Intifadah

*LD1112063691 Tehran IRNA in English 0502 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, Dec. 11, IRNA—Leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat here Tuesday afternoon called for stepping up support for intifadah.

Speaking in the second day of the sixth Islamic summit opened Monday, 'Arafat said that intifadah, now entering its fifth year, is more determined to end occupation of the Palestinian lands by the Zionist regime and force Israel to withdraw from al-Quds al-Sharif. "Love of our people for justice is demonstrated in intifadah," he said.

The present summit is being held between two events, the Persian Gulf crisis and the Madrid peace conference. 'Arafat added the PLO assumes full responsibility for participation in the Madrid conference.

'Arafat said that all of the Islamic umma should play an active role in the new international order and the order must be grounded on peace for all the people.

He said that without restoration of Palestinian rights and their return to their homeland with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital there will be no peace, security and stability.

He said Israel continues its aggression, crimes and provocations against the Palestinian nation as well as attacks on holy places and Palestinian camps. Furthermore, it obstructs peace process.

He urged the OIC [Islamic Conference Organization] to fulfill its responsibility in forcing Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories.

The resolutions passed by the OIC Political Committee on Palestinian question expressed deep concern over the prevailing serious situation in the occupied Palestinian territories resulted from the continued Israeli occupation, its continued repressive measures and continued confiscation of land and property to build settlements.

They also expressed concern over the continuing influx and settlement of hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants and others in the occupied Palestine and other Arab lands as well as occupied Syrian Golan.

The resolutions also stressed the necessity of providing all forms of support to intifadah in confronting Israeli occupation and repressive practices to enable it to continue until it achieves its objectives.

The resolutions further condemn Israel's uninterrupted policy of settlement and expansionism and the establishment of their independent state in their homeland with al-Quds al-Sharif as the capital.

### 'Arafat—U.S. 'Dishonest Broker'

*NC1012195791 Paris AFP in English 1945 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, Dec 10 (AFP)—PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat charged here Tuesday that the United States was a "dishonest" broker in the Middle East peace process.

'Arafat predicted that Arab-Israeli talks which were to open Tuesday in Washington would be "the start of a vicious battle between an enemy who has no pity and people not accustomed to surrender."

He also stressed that the Palestine Liberation Organisation "alone is responsible for its Palestinian delegation to the peace conference."

Palestinians from the occupied territories are taking part in the peace conference as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

But the Palestinian team consults the PLO on all matters, although the organisation is not a formal party to the U.S.-Soviet sponsored forum.

The PLO chief made his comments in a closed door session to Islamic heads of state and government who have been attending here since Monday the sixth summit of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

"We know that the Israeli enemy has allies and friends in Washington, that he is the pampered child of the American government.

"The sponsor of the (Middle East) peace conference, namely the American ... is not the honest broker for this difficult and dangerous match," 'Arafat said.

But he described the peace process as an "historic and important occasion which should not be countered by complications or provocations."

OIC leaders on Monday adopted a string of resolutions, including one of support for the Middle East peace process.

They also reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to "self-determination and the establishment of their independent Palestinian state on their national soil with al-Quds (Jerusalem) as its capital."

## Egypt's Musa Urges Nonaggression Pact

*NC1112100991 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa delivered Egypt's address to the sixth Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] in Dakar at 0115 today Cairo time. Musa conveyed Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's greetings to the conference chairman, Islamic leaders, and the sixth Islamic summit meeting in fraternal Senegal. He wished the conference success for the sake of our nation's success. Musa also conveyed to the conference President Mubarak's regret for his excellency's inability to attend in person, noting that the Egyptian people are following the proceedings of ICO summit and wish it success.

Musa praised Kuwait's ICO chairmanship in the past three years, congratulating Kuwait and his Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, chairman of the fifth summit, on the liberation of Kuwait and its return to legitimacy.

We need to extract the essence of the Islamic call and benefit from experiments in confidence building, economic development, and humanitarian relations, Musa added, so that the Islamic states can overcome the challenges and great changes taking place in the world. These changes, he noted, are imposing difficult situations and problems on the Islamic world's leaders and nations. Musa pointed out that a new era of international relations has begun and that collective security is the way of the future now that the cold war is over.

The Iraqi aggression against Kuwait contravened the spirit of the age and all international charters and conventions, he said, adding: The aggressor deserved the punishment imposed by the international community and God almighty.

Musa reiterated President Mubarak's call to consummate a nonaggression pact, a call which his excellency made at the fifth Islamic summit in fraternal Kuwait.

Musa pointed out that Gulf developments and the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait have shown the importance of President Mubarak's call for achieving a strong Islamic collective security integrated with the international collective security. Our Islamic heritage is an integral part of international legitimacy, Musa said, and from this perspective the Middle East peace process has begun establishing a new Middle East region free of fanaticism and aggression. This new region, he added, will be replete with a future in which the peoples coexist in a framework of equality in terms of duties and rights without giving up any principle or bargaining over rights.

These principles were Egypt's goal and target when it tried to ensure the convening of the historic meeting in Madrid on 30 October. He said there is no going back on the peace process which aims to attain a full peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of land-for-peace and in accordance with international legitimacy and the principles of the UN Charter. All these principles confirm the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, their right to self-determination and the return of the occupied territories, and the need for security and stability.

Musa pointed out that the time is ripe to save Jerusalem by ending Israeli occupation and control so that it can again become a house for peace and safety in which the mosque, church, and synagogue coexist.

Musa called on our brothers in Somalia to reconcile and spare the blood for the sake of national solidarity. He also asserted the solidarity of the Islamic peoples with the people of South Africa to establish full equality and eliminate the signs of apartheid.

Concluding his address, Musa said that the current era of the Islamic world dictates the mobilization of economic potential to achieve development and progress. This would enable the Islamic peoples to overcome their complicated problems, he added.

## Albanian Foreign Minister Speaks

*AU1112110791 Tirana ATA in English 1005 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Tirana, December 11 (ATA)—In the summit of the Organization of the World Islamic Conference, which is holding its proceedings in Dakar, the floor was also taken by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania Muhamet Kapllani.

After expressing the special satisfaction for Albania's acceptance to participate as observer in the Organization of the World Islamic Conference assessing it as an important moment in Albania's relations with the world, Mr. Kapllani informed it that in Albania, where 70 per cent of the population belongs to the Muslim faith, the Islamic community plays an important role in the sphere of the spiritual life of the people. Its existence in Albania and its traditional links with the Islamic world are an important factor for the further rapprochement and strengthening of the ties of understanding and fruitful cooperation with Albania with the world Islamic community. We notice with satisfaction, he said, that these ties are renewed.

Pointing out that the Muslim religion, the Orthodox and Catholic Christianity have coexisted in harmony in Albania, Muhamet Kapllani stressed in his speech that Albania, as a Balkan, European, and Mediterranean country, represents quite naturally a contact point, a bridge of friendship among the religions, cultures and civilizations, between Europe and the Islamic world. We consider this an important target of our foreign policy and are happy to make our contribution for the rapprochement and friendship of the peoples with various cultures, traditions and faiths, which accounts a lot in our time when we are striving to set up a new world order, dominated by peace, democracy and development. This orientation aims at making possible the promotion of friendship and cooperation with the

Islamic countries and voice our support on the just cause of the peoples of the Middle East.

In this context, the author continues further on, we have backed up and hailed the conference of peace for the Middle East held in Madrid recently. We wish this conference continue and reach a correct and final solution to the prolonged conflict of the Middle East, where the Palestinian question is in the center, through dialogue and peaceful talks.

We signed the Final Act of Helsinki and the Paris Charter and we will unsparingly work to make our modest contribution to the observation of the principles for a new, democratic, and peaceful Europe. Proceeding from these principles, Albania supported the European initiative for the solution of the crisis of Yugoslavia, where nearly 3 million Albanians are living, hence half of the Albanian nation. They are mainly of the Muslim belief. They are object of the savage violence of the Serb national-communist regime, which is openly violating the national human rights. In these conditions, the Republic of Albania has unreservedly backed up the question of Kosovo and the Albanians living in the still named Yugoslavia and believes that in the new Europe to be constructed, Albanians will be equal among the equals and not maimed, oppressed and discriminated.

### Bangladesh's Zia on Muslim Cooperation

*BK1112050891 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 0130 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Khaleda Zia has made a call to the Muslim nations to respond to the changes caused by the unprecedented political, economic, and social changes throughout the world. She was addressing the plenary session of the sixth Islamic summit at the Senegalese capital of Dakar yesterday. The Bangladeshi prime minister stressed the significance of safeguarding the individual and collective interests of the Islamic community on the threshold of the new era. She expressed her belief that the Muslim ummah [community] will [words indistinct] to the challenges posed by these developments. The prime minister expressed commitment of Bangladesh to the cause of Islamic ummah and to make its own modest contribution to the common objectives.

Touching on different issues of the Islamic community, the prime minister mentioned the disruption of the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] following the invasion and occupation of Kuwait. She said it challenged the principles fundamental to our charter, splitting our ranks. The prime minister said the invasion of Kuwait sent shock waves through the world's economy such [words indistinct]. She hoped that Iraq would return to the path of reason and (?neutrality) in full compliance with the resolutions of the UN Security Council.

Mentioning the potential of significant breakthrough on long-outstanding problems in the Islamic world, the prime minister said the recently held Middle East peace talks in Madrid have brought about bright prospects for peace. She said Bangladesh had always held that peace in the Middle East must be based on justice.

Referring to the 16-year-old Lebanese crisis, Begum Zia paid warm tribute to Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi for his efforts and felicitated King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, King Hassan II of Morocco, and President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria for their pioneering role in reestablishing peace there.

The prime minister said that solution to the Afghan problem remains elusive despite genuine desire to arrive at a peaceful settlement there as per the consensus resolutions of the United Nations and the ICO. Begum Zia said Bangladesh remains fully committed to ensure that the Afghan people determine their own destiny and freely choose their own government without any interference. She extended Bangladesh's support at the initiatives taken by the UN secretary general and hoped that it would lead to a political and negotiated settlement of the Afghan problem.

Begum Zia said Bangladesh firmly endorses the continued UN efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just solution of the Cyprus problem acceptable to both the communities. She said Bangladesh is committed to develop close and friendly relations with all her neighbors on the basis of justice, mutual benefit, and respect for the principles of international law. It is a fundamental motive that [words indistinct] SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] which aims at improving the living standard of the South Asian people in an environment of peace and stability.

The prime minister expressed her happiness that in Africa, where 60 percent of the ICO member state are located, many positive political developments have taken place.

The prime minister said that in evolving the new strategy the ICO's economic plan of action must include the concerns of people with relevent recommendations on its least developed member countries. She welcomed Iran's proposal to set up a standing committee on agriculture. She mentioned that her government had already suggested the setting up of an Islamic reinsurance organization and an Islamic center of advanced medical training and research in Bangladesh. Begum Zia hoped that the idea will be translated into action in near future. She also congratulated Azerbaijan for becoming a member and Albania for being an observer of ICO. The prime minister said all our efforts must be directed to improving the human condition in keeping with the holy Koran and the sunnah [teachings of the Prophet]. [passage omitted

## More Decisions, Resolutions Ratified at Summit

### King Husayn, Saudi Prince Quarrel

*NC1112071891 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Ahmad al-Razzaz dispatch from Dakar]

[Excerpts] At 1100 Cairo time, 0900 Dakar time, the sixth Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] summit will hold its fourth session today. Following an initial session open to the public, all sessions have been closed. [passage omitted]

The discussion on economic issues, which began yesterday, will be resumed today and touch on how to strengthen economic relations among the Islamic countries. A decision was made yesterday to support the Islamic Development Bank, which has a capital of $2.5 billion, with the aim of extending aid to less developed countries living under the poverty line. All of these nations are African countries suffering drought and desertification. Included in this support are several ways of easing the debt burden of the poor Islamic countries. We have learned that Saudi Arabia has announced that it will write off the debts owed to it by the poor African countries. Judging by this decision, the sixth Islamic summit has undertaken major economic tasks.

An important point remains: Extinguishing the flare-ups that erupt inside the meeting. Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, the conference chairman, is carrying out the peacemaker role. An angry argument erupted between King Husayn of Jordan and Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, head of the Saudi delegation. The Senegalese president intervened to pacify the verbal quarrel, which erupted over the respective countries' stances during the Gulf crisis. We are all well aware of what these stances were.

### Saudis To Forgive Poor Members' Debts

*NC1012164691 Paris AFP in English 1427 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, Dec 10 (AFP)—Saudi Arabia has decided to forgive the debts of the least developed member states of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Senegalese Foreign Minister Djibo Ka told reporters here Tuesday.

The minister, whose country is hosting the sixth Islamic summit conference, was briefing reporters on deliberations of the meeting which opened Monday.

But he did not specify the amounts involved or the countries to benefit from the writeoff.

The minister however said that Saudi Arabia had granted the OIC's Secretariat 10 million dollars to help it overcome financial difficulties resulting from delayed membership dues totalling some 59 million dollars. Saudi Arabia has also decided to raise its capital share in the Islamic Development Bank, the minister added.

Ka said Egyptian President Husni Mubarak who did not attend the summit, but sent a representative instead, may officially visit Senegal before the end of the year.

The minister said Mubarak had apologized for being unable to participate in the summit during a telephone conversation with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

### Continued Sanctions on Iraq Ratified

*NC1112073291 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0435 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that the sixth Islamic Conference Organization summit in Dakar has passed a resolution that supports continued economic sanctions against Iraq and condemns its refusal to abide by UN resolutions. The paper says that this step has been described as increasing Iraq's Arab and international isolation, noting that Palestine, Jordan, and Yemen voted for the resolution.

### Proposal for Common Market Ratified

*BK1012162491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The sixth Islamic summit in Dakar today ratified Pakistan's proposal on setting up a common market of Islamic countries. In a resolution, the conference called upon the Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation to consider a practical program of economic cooperation among member countries on the basis of its review of its future strategies. The conference also called for a review of the modalities to foster interregional cooperation and to gradually consolidate it for setting up an Islamic common market while keeping in view the present regional groups.

## Some Leaders Leave Dakar Before ICO Summit Ends

*AU1112100191 Paris AFP in English 0933 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] Dakar, Dec 11 (AFP)—Several Islamic leaders were leaving the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) summit here Wednesday amid complaints over Arab absenteeism at the meeting which is not due to close until Thursday.

Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi were among those heading home, where the latter was to receive French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas later this week.

A source close to the Pakistani delegation said Nawaz would stop off in Istanbul on his way to Islamabad for talks with Turkish leaders. Turkish President Turgut Ozal was also due out of Senegal later Wednesday.

On Monday, Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd al-Aziz, Indonesian President Suharto and Algeria's Chadli Bendjedid as well as the Kuwaiti and Jordanian rulers, Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah and King Husayn, packed up and went home.

Bendjedid, who is facing unrest at home, left without even delivering a speech to leaders gathered in closed-door debates.

"His delegation handed out the speech," an Arab diplomat disclosed. "So much for Islamic unity," commented an Asian delegation member.

Eleven Arab leaders failed to show at the summit which opened Monday, prompting Senegal President Abdou Diouf to say he was "very disappointed."

Diouf told the French newspaper LE MONDE that Africa—which is hosting an OIC summit for the first time—would see this as "concerted policy by Arab states, no matter what good or bad reasons they gave for their absence."

Diplomatic sources said the Arabs wanted to avoid holding a summit of their own on the sidelines of the Dakar parley. "They are not willing just yet to sit down together to discuss their problems," one diplomat said.

They have not come to grips with the consequences of the Gulf crisis, which divided their ranks and they now face differences over security arrangements for the Gulf. Long-standing disputes among the 21-member Arab League have prevented the holding of a summit since 1987. [passage omitted]

## Pakistani Prime Minister Departs

*BK1112153591 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif left Dakar for Istanbul after attending the sixth Islamic Conference Organization summit. He was seen off at the airport by Senegalese Prime Minister Habib Thiam.

## 'Security Scare' From Egg Attack on Iran's Leader

*AB1012183691 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There has been a security scare at the Islamic heads of state summit in the Senegalese capital, Dakar, involving the Iranian president, Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The incident took place at the main conference hotel when two women, posing as journalists, threw eggs at the president in an embrassing security breach for the hosts, Senegal. From Dakar, David Bamford reports:

[Begin Bamford recording] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who is leading the Iranian delegation at the meeting, was accosted by the two women as he emerged from a lift at the Hotel President, attached to Dakar's new conference center where the summit is taking place. Both he and his substantial security team were startled as the women began throwing eggs at the Iranian leader.

The women were dressed in Middle Eastern style head scarfs and wore journalist accreditation identification around their necks. According to eyewitnesses, after a few seconds of bewilderment, both Iranian and Senegalese security personnel pounced on the women, who were shouting slogans in English, French, and Italian, denouncing President Hashemi-Rafsanjani as a murderer. The president was whisked away, minus his hat. The eggs had apparently missed their target.

This is the first time that Iran has taken part in an Islamic summit since the Iranian Revolution in 1979. The incident has upset the Senegalese, who have visibly stepped up security measures around the journalists in the last few hours. The conference has so far been a mixture of overzealous scrutinization by security personnel and complete security lapses around prominent personalities, including Yasir 'Arafat and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Meanwhile, the heads of state continue to discuss resolutions relating to the Islamic world, stretching east as far as Indonesia, and the conference is scheduled to end on Thursday [12 December]. [end recording]

## Attackers Said 'Zionist Agents'

*LD1012201691 Tehran IRNA in English 1844 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, Dec. 10, IRNA—Two Zionist agents Tuesday morning attempted to insult the high-ranking delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran here, venue of the ongoing 6th Islamic summit conference.

The two carrying press badges disguised themselves as European journalists and managed to approach the Iranian delegation but were led away by the Senegalese security forces.

The attempt was apparently aimed at overshadowing the active and significant presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the sixth summit of the 45-member organization, which opened Monday.

The speech of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the Islamic leaders this morning in which he severely attacked the Zionist state was well received by the participants who applauded President Hashemi-Rafsanjani after he finished his address.

Later on King Husayn of Jordan, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, President Ilyas al-Hirawi of Lebanon and heads of several other delegations approached the president to congratulat him.

In his address to the conference the Iranian president lauded the intifadah and called for Islamic solidarity for tackling the problems of the Islamic community.

## Further Comment, Reaction on ICO Summit Issues

### Syria's Khaddam Meets Officials

*JN1012174691 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar—Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam met with Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah in the Senegalese capital of Dakar today at noon.

The meeting was attended by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Mubarak; minister of state for legal affairs, Dr. Husayn al-Baharinah; Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad; and Minister of Housing Shaykh Khalid Bin-'Atallah.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and the latest developments related to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam met with Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy prime minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Dakar last night. Also attending the meeting for the Saudi side were Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al- Faysal, Finance Minister Muhammad Aba-al-Khayl, and Muhammad 'Ali al-Fayiz, minister of social affairs and labor.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations, the regional situation, and the latest developments related to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam also received Lebanese Prime Minister 'Umar Karami in Dakar last night. The meeting was attended by Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs, and Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs. For the Lebanese side, the meeting was also attended by Minister of Finance 'Ali al-Khalil.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and issues on the agenda of the Islamic summit conference.

### Confers With Jordanian Foreign Minister

*JN1112070791 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received Jordanian Foreign Minister Kamil Abu-Jabir in the Senegalese capital last night. The meeting was attended by Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs, and Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs. The talks, during the meeting, dealt with the situation in the region and the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

### Bangladeshi Prime Minister Meets Leaders

*BK1012164491 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, has said his country will continue to support Bangladesh in its efforts to develop its socioeconomic conditions. The amir said this when Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia met him at the conference center in Dakar yesterday evening. Begum Zia said the democratically-elected government in Bangladesh will always stand by the side of the Kuwaiti Government and its people. Referring to thousands of Bangladeshi workers and professionals working in Kuwait, the prime minister offered [words indistinct] more such assistance in future. About presence of Bangladesh armed forces in Kuwait, Begum Zia said her country can send more personnel if Kuwait needs them. The prime minister invited the Amir to visit Bangladesh. The amir expressed his gratitude and appreciation of the government and people of Bangladesh for all support and assistance extended to Kuwait during the crisis.

Senegalese president Abdou Diouf called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the hotel suite in Dakar yesterday thanked her for attending the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] summit. President Diouf said Bangladesh and Senegal have a major role to play in strengthening the Islamic ummah. Mr. Diouf mentioned that he will pay an official visit to Bangladesh soon.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and the ruler of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifah, exchanged views on the Middle East situation with special reference to the post Gulf war peeriod. The prime minister called on him at the hotel suite in Dakar, where ICO leaders are staying. They agreed on the (?security) of the region and the need for safeguarding the security of the countries of the region.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia called on Indonesian President Suharto at President Hotel suite in Dakar yesterday. They discussed matters of mutual interest. The Bangladesh leader thanked President Suharto for his country's generous help during the cyclone.

[Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English at 0130 GMT on 11 Dec 91, in a report on Zia's speech at the summit, adds:

"Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at Dakar yesterday. During the talks, Mr. Sharif said that stranded Pakistanis living in Bangladesh will be gradually taken back to Pakistan. Other leaders who called on the Bangladeshi prime minister include Gambian President Dawda Jawara and Deputy Prime Minister of Oman Qays al-Zawawi. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mrs. Ogata, also called on the prime minister. Problems of Rohingya Muslims and stranded Pakistanis came up for discussion during the meeting."]

### Yemen's al-Bid Meets 'Arafat, Others

*JN1012193391 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman, has met in the Senegalese capital of Dakar, with Brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine. [passage omitted]

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman, today met with Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki in Dakar, on the sidelines of the sixth Islamic summit. [passage omitted]

At his place of residence in Dakar, brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman, today met separately with brothers King Husayn Bin-Talal of Jordan and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. [passage omitted]

### King Husayn Meets Islamic Leaders, 'Arafat

*JN1012202091 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Shakir Maharimah dispatch from Dakar]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's place of residence in Dakar has been the scene of several meetings and bilateral consultations, between his majesty and a number of heads of state participating in the sixth Islamic summit taking place in Senegal. His majesty received Sultan Hasanal Bolkiah of Brunei. They discussed means of promoting and consolidating bilateral relations in all fields. They also reviewed the Islamic situation and inter-Islamic cooperation and solidarity during the current stage.

His Majesty King Husayn also received 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Republic of Yemen's Presidential Council, who conveyed to his majesty the greetings of his brother Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. They discussed coordination in various fields between the two fraternal countries.

His majesty also received at his place of residence Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo. They reviewed means to achieve Islamic cooperation and solidarity, especially between Jordan and the African states in economic, trade, and cultural fields.

His majesty also received Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vierra. During the meeting, they discussed prospects for promoting political and economic relations between the two Muslim countries, as well as means of promoting Jordanian-African cooperation and coordination.

Afterward, His Majesty King Husayn received Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal, the host country of the sixth Islamic Conference Organization summit. The two sides reviewed the work of the summit conference and means to make it successful. They also discussed prospects for promoting bilateral relations, cooperation, and coordination in all fields. At the end of the meeting, His Majesty King Husayn decorated the Senegalese president with the Hashemite Medal in observation of his huge efforts before and after the sixth Islamic summit.

Afterward, his majesty King Husayn received Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. During the meeting, they reviewed the current peace process, efforts being exerted to make it a success, and the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination regarding the peace process.

The meetings were attended by His Excellency Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin Shakir; His Highness Prince Talal Bin-Muhammad, his majesty the king's military secretary; Foreign Minister Kamil Abu-Jabir; and 'Adnan al-Talhuni, Jordan's unaccredited ambassador to Senegal.

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meets 'Arafat, Others

*NC1112094891 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Some heads and officials of Islamic countries called on President Hashemi-Rafsanjani at his residence in Dakar.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and discussed issues pertaining to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] summit. The two presidents said they hoped that bilateral cooperation would be strengthened and increased.

Member of the Command Council of Yemen 'Ali Salim al-Bid [title as heard] also met our president and conveyed the warm greetings of Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and briefed him on the unification of the two Yemens. He described the Hashemi-Rafsanjani's speech at the ICO summit conference as a reflection of the wishes of the Islamic nations.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani also met the head of the PLO. In the meeting 'Arafat expressed his gratitude to the Islamic Republic of Iran as a constant supporter of the oppressed Palestinian nation. Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked 'Arafat and expressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's displeasure at the presence of Palestinians in the plot hatched recently under the guise of the Middle East peace conference. The president stressed that the struggle for the liberation of the occupied Palestinian homeland needs to be continued.

Yesterday afternoon some British Muslim delegates to the sixth ICO session called on the president and submitted a report on the situation of Muslims in Britain. They affirmed their decisive support for the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on regional and international issues and expressed their appreciation for Hashemi-Rafsanjani's historic remarks at the ICO summit.

In response, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the Islamic Republic of Iran will stand steadfast to the last for the revival of Islam's greatness.

A group of Senegalese religious scholars also met our president yesterday afternoon.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] During the meeting some prominent Senegalese 'ulema welcomed the president on behalf of those present at this meeting. They briefed the president on the situation of Muslims and the mode of instruction for theological sciences, the administration of religious schools and seminaries. They praised the Islamic Republic of Iran as a bastion of resistance against the powers of world arrogance and a center of Islamic unity.

One of the'ulema termed Hashemi-Rafsanjani's ICO speech a source of dynamism and hope for the entire Islamic ummah, saying: The Islamic Revolution of Iran allocates the necessary importance to the issues facing the Islamic world in all aspects, especially in your excellency's speech at the ICO summit and the special attention to the problems of Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan and Kashmir for which we convey our deep gratitude.

Our president expressed his pleasure at meeting with the Islamic 'ulema, saying: The revolution by the Iranian 'ulema was for the implementation of divine injunctions and for freeing Islam from alienation. Our participation in this conference is another effort to foster solidarity among Islamic countries in the path of God and Islam.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: In Islamic Iran we have been victorious on the basis of the unity and coordination of the 'ulema, adding that increasing Muslim solidarity is now, more than ever, the guarantee of the honor and greatness of Islam and Muslims.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted the special attention the Islamic Republic of Iran devotes to African Muslims, adding: One of the salient features of our policy is to assist African Muslims. We are trying to establish shipping lines and air routes between Iran and Africa.

In conclusion, the president once again expressed his pleasure at meeting with the 'ulema, saying: I consider the attention and interest of the 'ulema of these countries in the Islamic Revolution of Iran as one of God's blessings. [end recording]

### Algerian President Meets Officials

*LD1112123491 Algiers APS in English 1025 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Dakar, 11/12/91 (APS)—President Chadli Bendjedid audienced yesterday here the Egyptian foreign affairs minister, 'Amr Musa. President Chadli Bendjedid also audienced the president of Cameroon, Paul Biya, the vice prime minister of the sultanate of Oman and the Tunisian delegation chaired by the prime minister, Hamed Karoui. Talks were centered on bilateral relations of common interests, topical international questions notably those relating to the African Continent. President Chadli Bendjedid left yesterday Dakar to Algiers after having attended works behind closed doors devoted to the general debate and interventions of heads of delegations participating to this summit.

## OPEC Affairs

### OPEC Development Fund Grants Detailed

*LD0612231891 Riyadh SPA in English 1932 GMT 6 Dec 91*

[Text] Vienna, Dec 6, SPA—The governing board of the OPEC Fund for International Development today approved a grant of 250,000 dollar in support of the first phase of construction and equipping of Khan Yunis College of Science and Technology in the Gaza Strip.

The college is an independent polytechnic, founded in 1990, to form qualified technicians. It developed a two-year program under which students are given academic and professional training in the fields of medicine, engineering and computer science. The college also offers courses in humanities, English and business administration and finance. It currently has a student body of 200.

Total loan disbursements have reached 1,916 million dollar representing 72 percent of the approved loans.

Grants totaling 1.787 million dollar have also been allocated so far this year, bringing the cumulative grant commitments to 216.9 million dollar, with disbursements totaling 135 million dollar. To date, 308 grants have financed various activities such as technical assistance, vocational training, food aid, research and similar activities and emergency assistance.

In yesterday's session, the governing board approved 10 new loans to 10 countries in Africa, Asia and Central America. Three new grants were approved as well.

The new loans total 51.2 million dollar and are directed at the agriculture, industry, transportation, education and health sectors:

| Country: | Purpose: | Amount: |
|---|---|---|
| | | (million dollar) |
| Bangladesh | Primary schools construction project | 8.0 |
| Cape Verde | Primary schools construction project | 2.0 |
| Chad | Secondary Education quality improvement project | 5.0 |
| Mozambique: | Xai Xai hospital rehabilitation project | 3.5 |
| Nicaragua | Commodity imports program | 10.0 |

| Country: | Purpose: | Amount: |
|---|---|---|
| | | (million dollar) (Continued) |
| Sao Tome | Junior secondary schools Principe construction project | 1.5 |
| Senegal | Second primary education project | 5.0 |
| Syria | Line of credit to the Agricultural Cooperative Bank | 10.0 |
| Tanzania | Zanzibar primary education project | 1.2 |

All project loans as well as the line of credit to Syria, have a maturity of 17 years including a grace period of five years, whereas the program loan to Nicaragua has a maturity of 10 years, including a grace period of three years, interest rates applying to the loans range from 2-3.5 pct [percent] per annum except for the loan to Syria (5pct). An annual service charge of 1 percent on amounts disbursed and outstanding will be applied to all loans.

The fund-supported projects are cofinanced by the governments of the recipient countries and in some cases by other external donors. The latter include the African Development Fund, the International Development Association, the Danish International Development Agency, the United States Agency for International Development and the Government of Japan.

The two new grants total 550,000 and consist of the following.

300,000 support the fourth phase of the onchocerciasis (river blindness) control program to be implemented by the World Health Organization.

250,000 in support of the first phase of the construction and equipping of the Khan Yunis College of Science and Technology in the Gaza Strip.

Other items on the board's agenda included the administrative budget for the financial year 1992, and contributions by the member countries of the fund for the same year. The board also reviewed requests submitted to the fund for project financing.

The next session of the board will be held on March 1.

## Algeria

### Forces Kill Remainder of Border Post Attackers

*LD1012123791 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] A communique issued by the National Gendarmerie has affirmed that the security forces yesterday eliminated the remainder of the elements that recently attacked a border post of the national army. The same communique said that the result of yesterday's clashes between the armed men and the security forces near the town of Biskra was 17 dead, including four men from the security forces.

### Arrested FIS Sympathizer Interviewed on Operation

*LD1012210191 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] In Biskra, a wounded man named Teraa from the group which attacked the Guemar border post is now being treated at Ayn Nadja Hospital. He was arrested by the security forces the day before yesterday [8 December]. He was interviewed by the National Gendarmerie. Here is the interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified gendarme] [Words indistinct] November. How did you plan, how did you seize the weapons, and who is your commander who came up with this plan?
[Teraa] How shall I (?start)? Shall I answer your questions one by one?

[Gendarme] One by one. Tell me, who is your commander? Who leads you?
[Teraa] Our commander was Abderrahmane, the one who died.

[Gendarme] Aderrahmane. What is his other name?
[Teraa] He is named Abderrahmane.

[Gendarme] What is his last name?
[Teraa] His last name is Dahane Mohamed.

[Gendarme] Is he the leader of your group?
[Teraa] Yes.

[Gendarme] Does he have any relationship with Tayeb el-Afghani?
[Teraa] Yes, he does.

[Gendarme] What is the relationship?
[Teraa] I do not know. I only know that they know each other.

[Gendarme] Who is the commander, Tayeb el-Afghani or Dahane?
[Teraa] Dahane.

[Gendarme] Did Dahane die?
[Teraa] Yes.

[Gendarme] Is he here?
[Teraa] Yes. [passage omitted]

[Gendarme] Who planned the attack on the barracks the night of the operation?
[Teraa] Mohamed Dahane.

[Gendarme] Did Dahane draw up the plan?
[Teraa] Yes.

[Gendarme] Was Tayeb el-Afghani present with you?
[Teraa] Yes, he was with us. [passage omitted]

[Gendarme] What is the name of your organization?
[Teraa] What?

[Gendarme] What is the name of your organization?
[Teraa] The Movement of Islamic Algerian Jihad [Harakat al-Jihad al-Islami al-Jazairi], I think. [passage omitted]

[Gendarme] Tell me, are you affiliated with any political party?
[Teraa] No, I am not. I am only a sympathizer.

[Gendarme] [Words indistinct due to cross-talk] what party?
[Teraa] I am only a sympathizer.

[Gendarme] With whom?
[Teraa] With the Salvation, the Islamic Salvation Front. [passage omitted]

[Gendarme] Where precisely do you live?
[Teraa] In Guemar.

[Gendarme] In Guemar itself?
[Teraa] Yes. [end recording]

## Egypt

### Mubarak Comments on U.S. Dispute With Libya

*NC1012210591 Cairo MAYU in Arabic 2 Dec 91 pp 3, 7*

[Interview with President Husni Mubarak by chief editor Samir Rajab; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Rajab] There is a feeling of apprehension concerning the plan to settle 1 million Egyptians in Libya because of the adverse fate which faced the families of Egyptian farmers who settled in Iraq. Is the plan to settle Egyptians in Libya continuing despite the negative signals sent by the Libyans recently?

[Mubarak] First, I do not make unstudied decisions. Second, we have been talking about the settlement in Libya for a year. Has anyone gone to settle there? No. No one has gone, because the settlement of people should be preceded by guarantees such as housing, residence, and everything that would ensure a dignified and secure life for our citizens. Anything else, no. We will not load the people on trucks, drop them there, and say to them: You are on your own. Resources must exist. When a million people go, they will not go in one group but in groups over a number of years if the resources are available for them. In short, we don't do anything unless it is carefully calculated.

[Rajab] If the United States carries out an act of military aggression against Libya, or directs a military strike against it or adopts any sort of economic embargo, will this affect our citizens there?

[Mubarak] I do not think that the United States will carry out a military action because the present U.S. leadership is reasonable, and we, in turn, tell them our views on any subject with frankness and honesty, not from the standpoint of self-interest but from the standpoint of public interest.

We say this because it is based on experience. We say this so that no party paper can come out and misinterpret what is said. I do not outbid anyone.

As for the economic embargo or anything else, we do not want to talk about a premature issue. We are searching for solutions. The issue has become a political one, and I do not want to mention details. But I say that I have held contacts with the United States, and I do not think that the United States will carry out a military action. [passage omitted]

## Mubarak Discusses Peace Process, Terrorism

*NC1012172191 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Alexandria, 10 Dec (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak emphasized that Egypt's policy is characterized by understanding, pragmatism, sincerity, clear vision, and the accurately calculated decisions which take the Egyptian people's interest into account. He added: We are playing our role as long as this is compatible with justice, principles, human values, respect for international legitimacy, and mutual respect between countries and peoples.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif stated this following President Mubarak's meeting today with the popular and executive leaderships of Alexandria Governorate.

President Mubarak said that the age of slogans and shouting has ended with the advent of the age of order and world and human development, and that it is being replaced by the policy of understanding based on self-respect and respect for opinions, views, and counteropinions. He emphasized the need for the nation's actions to be calculated and thought-out in order to maintain stability, sovereignty, and dignity.

President Mubarak added: Egypt's policy is based on its belief that it is part of the world. We interact with it and it interacts with our issues, and herein lies the link between foreign and domestic policies. But, he added, problems in our region have arisen before us. He emphasized that it is Egypt's fate to play its Arab and African role, which every country and people expect of it.

On the developments in the crisis resulting from the accusations against two Libyan citizens in the bombing of the U.S. and French planes, President Mubarak said that Egypt's policy is clear: We denounce terrorism in all its shapes and forms. He added: We have declared our stand. We are playing our role, advising against rashness, calling for a resort to reason, and calling for giving an opportunity to achieve justice and respect for human principles and values. The president added that these are the real guarantees of regional and world stability and for maintaining dignity.

On the bilateral Arab-Israeli talks in Washington, President Mubarak said: We must negotiate, be patient and determined, take all the changes into account, and speak in the language of the era. We also must seek the support of world public opinion and back our causes, which are just.

As for the countries which attack the Middle East peace process, President Mubarak said: There is no room for pomposity, hypocrisy, or one-upmanship about peoples. This does not bring about the return of territories or legitimate rights.

As to countries which harbor forces of extremism, he said: Things in Egypt are clear. There are those seeking to harm stability in Egypt. He emphasized that the Egyptian security organs are discovering all this and following the actions of those who act under and hide behind the cloak of Islam. He added that these people are in fact "power seekers" [tullab sultah] and have ambitions, whether in their own countries or outside them with their neighbors, and that they are also turning the Islamic summit into a platform for disputes and deviation from the Arab consensus.

On the Islamic summit beginning in Dakar, President Mubarak said: Some issues and domestic and foreign duties have prevented me from attending the Islamic summit. He added that this does not diminish his great appreciation for Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and the unique relations between the two countries. He said that he telephoned President Diouf last night. He also said that he will visit Senegal at the earliest opportunity.

Turning to security and stability in the Gulf, President Husni Mubarak referred to the consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its destructive effects on Arab relations and on the power struggle in the region. He underlined the strength of relations between Egypt and its brothers and also confidence in Egypt and its credibility in view of its commitment to values, principles, and Arab interests.

When asked what he means by the link between domestic and foreign policies, President Mubarak told the popular and executive leaderships of Alexandria Governorate today that this is clear from the cancelation of Egypt's debts, such as the writing off of Egypt's military debts by the United States, the write-offs by the

European countries, the understanding with international economic establishments, and the friendly countries' backing for the Egyptian economy.

Asked about what is sometimes written in the newspapers about Egypt's leaders, President Mubarak said: Egypt's leaders belong to all Egyptians. We respect all leaders because they were all nationalists. We must not use their names and principles for political maneuverings because they belong to all Egyptians as a result of their struggles and contributions.

Asked about the possible outcome of the bilateral Arab-Israeli talks in Washington, President Mubarak said that these talks "need much patience and could affect the region's ability to deal with and influence the international changes." The president reviewed the horizons of the new world order, the nature of this order, how its present image is taking shape, and its deep and radical effect on the world's political, economic, and social spheres. He said that this order has imposed itself as a result of the radical changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union and the countries of East Europe.

President Mubarak explained that the new world order has an effect on the Middle East region. He said that this region is part of the world and that consequently it has to deal with these new concepts politically, economically, socially, and culturally.

The president explained here Egypt's policy in dealing with these concepts, taking into consideration that it is part of this world and that it takes from and gives to this world at the political and economic levels. He said that Egypt quite early began its efforts to maintain a balance between political and economic reforms and stated that Egypt started its democratic process in the early 1980's and simultaneously launched the process of gradual economic reform.

President Mubarak affirmed that economic reform must be an "Egyptian reform" capable of maintaining a balance with the international system and keeping the social balance in Egypt. He said: Had it not been for the adoption of the balance policy and the early adoption of the policy on democracy and economic reform in Egypt, we would have been in an unenviable position.

President Mubarak added: There are difficulties. Prices are increasing all over the world. We are part of this world. But had it not been for the reform measure, frankness, and the understanding of Egyptian citizens, we would be suffering from extremely exhausting conditions which could have reached the point of food shortages, as is the case in some states in which the citizens can find no services or food. President Mubarak explained in this regard that if the evaluation of the situation is not sound and is not based on facts and realities, the result will be a defect in achieving a balance in society.

At the beginning of the two-hour meeting, the Alexandria Governorate leaders praised President Mubarak's step-by-step following up of the developments in the bridge collapse west of al-Nubariyah.

President Mubarak said he has followed this matter moment by moment. He added that he is aware of all the facts and the details, because he discussed the issue at the recent cabinet meeting. He added that the matter was referred to the administrative affairs prosecution and control authorities for investigation and to determine all technical and administrative points in this regard.

On the question of developing the new areas in the Sinai, President Mubarak referred to a cultivation project targeting some 400,000 feddans of land in the Sinai and to the tunnel being dug under the Suez Canal to bring water to specific areas in the North Sinai Governorate. He explained that the implementation of this project will take about three years and that the project is making good progress. He noted that the project is being financed by fraternal Kuwait.

President Mubarak also referred to the project to reclaim some 40,000 feddans in the area east of Suez, which is being financed by the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. The agreement on this project was concluded during UAE President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan's visit to Egypt. He also referred to the reclamation of agricultural land in the Burj al-'Arab area, which also is being financed by the UAE. He said that this represents a huge development project and that it will provide new job opportunities in these areas.

As for Egypt's future prospects, President Mubarak said: Hope can be achieved through production, work, the rationalization of expenditure and consumption, and a change in customs and attitudes, whether by the citizens or by state institutions. He affirmed that this is what gives us great hope in achieving what we aspire to and what will place us on the right path.

## Libya

### Al-Qadhdhafi Calls for 'Dialogue' on Lockerbie

*LD1012185891 Tripoli JANA in English 1430 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Tripoli, al-Kanoun [December] 10 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution made a number of significant and comprehensive statements for the daily Cairo news-paper "AL-AHRAM." He was interviewed by the editor-in-chief and handled the present Arab and international issues. The statements were published over two consecutive days.

During the interview, the leader spoke about the hostage issue. He confirmed that the Great Jamahiriyah had always been against the taking of hostages for whatever reasons. He evoked to the memories the personal efforts which he had exerted in this respect, and his repeated calls for hostage takers to release the hostages.

He pointed out, in this regard, to the contacts that he made with the parties involved in the kidnap of the Anglican Church emissary, Terry Waite. He said that they wanted to kill him, but thanks to our intervention, his life was saved, and we exerted huge efforts for his release.

The leader of the revolution re-asserted that terrorism could not be a means for achieving aims, as it produces further terrorism and distorts the sacred causes and inflicts injury and damage on innocent people.

The leader of the revolution re-affirmed that terrorism should not be adopted as means for the defence of sacred causes. He added, I do challenge anyone who accuses my person or Libya with terrorism, to provide any crucial evidence for that.

At the same time, the leader confirmed that: We can not abandon our support for the legitimate struggle of the peoples that fight for self-determination, freedom and the just causes.

He pointed out that terrorism should be separated from legitimate struggle and said: I do not think that any sober adult can support terrorism, not any revolutionary can support terrorism. There is no connection between terrorism and revolutionism. I am a revolutionary, I can not [word indistinct] being revolutionary, accordingly my issue is very clear, I do accept dialogue and negotiation, as a revolutionary, against (?terrorism), colonialism and oppression. We are not oppressors and we do not colonise anyone. The leader added: It is not in our interest, being against terrorism and fighting terrorism, that the culprits are there, somewhere, safe and laughing at us. We should not let the real culprits ridicule us or direct us the wrong way and they remain free to repeat their crime again, as this puts us in serious trouble because we then have to expect further wrong-doing. In the same manner, he implicates us with another state as he did this time by implicating Libya. Those culprits know how to murder us, they know how to mislead us and let Libya be accused once, or they may accuse Egypt, Syria or Iran once again.

The editor-in-chief of "AL-AHRAM" asked the leader regarding the judicial measures taken by Libya over Lockerbie [word indistinct] the leader stated that Libya has appointed a magistrate to investigate the case, that the accused persons will be kept detained. He said: In order that the investigating magistrate reaches a conclusion he needs the evidence that is available with Britain, the United States and France.

The leader called for the adoption of dialogue between the Libyan magistrate and the legal authorities in Scotland. He needs to intensify his contacts with Britain, America, Malta and France so that the investigation process develops in a serious manner.

The leader asserted that it is necessary that Americans and British should furnish the Libyan magistrate with all available evidence so that the magistrate can proceed with the investigations. Without those evidences we can do nothing with the two accused persons. The leader expressed his belief that the two Libyan suspects are not involved in the incident. As for their surrender, that will put the investigation into an [word indistinct].

The leader confirmed the readiness of Libya to welcome any international enquiry commission. He said: We have no objection. We are confident about our innocence.

He said that we want the Arab League to take care of the whole issue as Libya is presently standing alone in confrontation of an alliance of several countries.

The leader re-confirmed that Libya has nothing to do with the incidents of the two American and French airliners, nothing more than just a feeling of sorrow for the victims of the two airliners.

He expressed his surprise for the eruption of the issue in this way and said that this implies some evil intentions.

He said that the issue is not an issue of investigation. It is unreasonable that the case remains hidden for about four years when it emerges suddenly and they direct accusations towards Libya. This casts a lot of doubts regarding the credibility of investigations. It means that there is some sort of fabrication or cooking that have taken four years and then Libya becomes accused for political reasons.

The leader exclaimed: Why have they kept the case all this long time? Does not that make us doubtful in the evidence they quote. He said: Their target is the regime in Libya and plotting against it, they imagine that Libya had a president, a government, a party or even a class they might destroy. He confirmed that the system established in Libya is indestructible as the power is at the hands of the people, the same system that was in ancient Athens.

The leader replied to a question on the demands of compensation, he confirmed that compensation is a right but firstly we have to know who will have to pay.

The leader made the following proposal, that the United Nations General Assembly holds an emergency session to study the issue of compensations for nations and families who suffered from the activities of past colonisation and terrorism. In the same manner as the Germans compensated the Jews, France have to compensate Algeria, Italy has to compensate Libya, Portugal to compensate Angola. There are also the victims of the Iranian civil airliner that was downed by the American Navy, the Libyan plane downed over Sinai, the Korean plane downed by the Soviet Union, the Italian plane [not further identified], the Pan-American plane, the people of Lockerbie, the French U.T.A. plane. All those planes have been down intentionally. All those victims have to be compensated. If a specific party can not compensate in full then we have to establish a fund, and raise enough funds from all countries to compensate all.

The leader was asked in respect of aspects of the project that will be proposed by Libya to the United Nations. He said that this project will end the chapter of terrorism. It will urge the world to study the causes of terrorism and act towards solving all political problems that lead to terrorism, to destroy all weapons of mass destruction including chemical, biological and nuclear, as all these are forms of terrorism. It should be destroyed and banned. All ballistic missiles, inter-continental missiles, re-fuelling aircrafts and cross-oceanic systems have to be abandoned. Seas should be cleared of warfare. Armies should be withdrawn from countries of others and generally exterminate all offensive weapons, only keep defensive weapons within territorial waters.

The leader added that the project calls for the deterrence of all those who undertake terrorist activities. As for the wanted persons around the world, they have to be pardoned, returned to their countries in a peacefully guaranteed manner and drop any charges against them. Civilians should be surrendered to the Interpol.

The leader reaffirmed his hope that trust be re-established between Libya and the whole world, and in particular the Arab world.

In his statements to the news-paper "AL-AHRAM" the leader handled the *Third Universal Theory* (The Green Book) which has no connection with violence or terrorism. He said that the Green Book is opposed to the use of force and calls for the peaceful socialist transformation which is now present in America, Britain and elsewhere. He said the socialism sought by the Green Book is the possession of an enterprise by a million persons instead of one person, and that will be through partnerships. He said that socialism of the Green Book used to be called popular socialism. The Green Book calls it also popular socialism, and it is well known in America and Britain where the enterprises are transformed to the possession of workers. He said that this theory is an ideological process special to the Green Book. This theory could not resort to weapons or violence as this is contradictory with the thought of the Green Book which rejects violence, principally.

In reply to a question on training camps he said there is a camp where Pakistani students are taught Arabic language and they call that a training camp for terrorists. There is the Green Auditorium and they think that it is for military training. There is also the camp of "al-Qalah" that accommodates Palestinian families, refugees of bad situations, and they say that this is a terrorist camp. He said that if we want to open camps for the Palestinians, then we will not do it secretly, as long as we are zealous for the Arab nation. We should say that we are opening camps for training Palestinians to liberate Palestine, and let be whatever that might be. But we have not yet decided yet. Palestinians are split and they have lands for training in Syria and Lebanon. Iran and Afghanistan are equally open for training and I think that they do not need Libya for training, specially as Libya places them at a firing range [as received].

The leader was asked whether there was a Libyan training camp for Abu Nidal. He exclaimed: Who said that he is undertaking armed struggle so that we can train him? No one. I witness presently a policy of peace and direct negotiations. It is against Palestinian interests to undertake military actions at this stage.

### Compensation for Pan Am Victims 'Not Ruled Out'

*PM1012105091 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Dec 91 p 4*

[Ahmad Kamal Hamdi report: "Mubarak Assures Al-Qadhdhafi of Early End to Crisis"]

[Excerpt] Cairo, Bonn, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Diplomatic sources in Cairo have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak told Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that the Libyan-Western crisis is on its way to a peaceful solution. AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from informed sources in Cairo that Libya is currently studying the applications for compensation demanded for each of the Pan Am victims' families.

The sources said that Libya's agreement to pay the required compensation is not ruled out, provided that the charges against the two Libyan intelligence defendants are first proved with regard to their responsibility for the incident, in accordance with what will be decided by a neutral international arbitration body.

The sources stated their belief that it is possible to arrive at a suitable formula through the compensation in order to eliminate the effects of this crisis through the current extensive Arab and international contacts. Moscow is currently involved in ongoing and extensive efforts with the U.S. Administration to prevent the tension from escalating.

Informed sources have revealed that the United States will propose during these contacts that Libya pay each of the victims' families $250,000.

The sources said that the compensation issue could be presented to leader al-Qadhdhafi with several options.

The sources added that Arab contacts both with Libya and with the other states involved in the crisis to secure solutions that will ensure its complete conclusion and the restoration of Libya's normal relations with the Western states. [sentence as published]

Informed sources have said that Libya's decision to withdraw its financial assets from the United States, Britain, and France and to transfer them to Arab banks was not intended to increase the tension between it and any of these states. The aim was to avoid falling into the trap of these assets' being frozen and to benefit from past experience of such assets' being frozen by the United States and Britain.

Informed sources have confirmed that Libya has emphasized through indirect diplomatic channels to these states that this did not signify Libya's backpedalling from its pursuit of every legal and legitimate means to reveal the complete truth about the charges leveled at it and its complete willingness to ensure that all wrongdoers shoulder their full responsibility. [passage omitted]

### Judicial Inquiry Opened Into UTA Plane Bombing

*AB0912213691 Paris AFP in French 1959 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Paris, 9 Dec (AFP)—Last week in Tripoli the Libyan Ministry of Justice opened a judicial inquiry into the bombing of a UTA DC-10 (which caused 170 deaths on 19 September 1989), a reliable source disclosed in Paris tonight. This judicial inquiry was opened at the request of the lawyers of the two Libyan nationals accused by the French Justice Department: Mr. 'Abdallah al-Sanusi, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's brother-in-law and who is considered the "second in command" of the intelligence services, and Mr. Musa Kusa, deputy foreign minister. Jean-Louis Bruguire, the Parisian examining magistrate, has issued an international arrest warrant against the former and has declared the latter a wanted man.

Their lawyers, Counselors Francois Gibault of the Paris Bar Association, and Kamil Maqur, a prominent lawyer of the Tripoli Bar Association, requested that the Libyan Justice Ministry open this judicial inquiry, an issue on which a decision was finally made last week. It was entrusted to examining magistrate Mahmud al-Mursi, who according to a reliable source has indicated that he is prepared to cooperate with Magistrate Bruguire, who consequently could travel to Tripoli soon.

Mr. Sa'd Mujbir, Libya's ambassador to France, recently has emphasized on several occasions that his country would be prepared to cooperate in the inquiry into the bombing of the DC-10. Apart from Mr. al-Sanusi, the French Justice Department has issued international arrest warrants against three other senior officers of the Libyan intelligence services: 'Abdallah al-Azraq, Ibrahim Nayli, and Musbah Arbas. Finally, the "third in command," just like Mr. Kusa, has been declared a wanted man. As for the bombing of the Pan Am aircraft at Lockerbie (which caused 270 deaths in December 1988), the Libyan Justice Department has opened a judicial inquiry and has placed in custody the two Libyans—Muhammad al-Miqrahi and al-Amin Khalifah Fuhaymah—accused by the United States and Great Britain of having been involved in the act.

## Mauritania

### President Receives Libyan Envoy, Message

*LD0812215591 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Dec 91*

[Arab Maghreb pool item]

[Text] Nouakchott, 8 Dec (JANA)—Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, received at noon today Mr. Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab, Libyan secretary of state for Arab Maghreb affairs, who conveyed to him a message from the leader of the Libyan revolution, Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The meeting was attended by Ahmed Ould Sid'Ahmed, secretary of state in charge of Maghreb Union affairs, and the Libyan charge d'affaires in Mauritania.

Mr. al-Zarruq Rajab told the Mauritanian news agency that he conveyed to his excellency the president the greetings of his brother and friend Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution.

He added that the message which he conveyed to his excellency the president concerned the false accusations against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He said that the message contained clarifications that confirmed the innocence of Libya regarding all accusations, and that as a consequence it was natural that the Jamahiriyah should inform fraternal and friendly states of this, particularly the Arab ones because the threat against Libya concerned them.

Mr. Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab added that his country was not involved in the aforementioned incidents and that it is bound by respect and international legitimacy, and that it is giving peace- and justice-loving states the possibility to ascertain matters concerning the aforementioned accusations.

He pointed out that he was informed by his excellency the president of the great interest that Mauritania devotes to anything that harms a fraternal state in the Arab homeland in general and the Arab Maghreb in particular.

With regard to cooperation within the Arab Maghreb's framework, Mr. Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab affirmed his satisfaction with the steps that have been taken along the path of building the Arab Maghreb Union.

### Libyan Envoy Comments on Lockerbie

*LD0812222291 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 2030 GMT 8 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, received this afternoon brother Muhammad al-Zarruq Rajab, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's secretary for Arab Maghreb Union affairs. The Libyan official conveyed to the president a message from his brother Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's al-Fatih Revolution. The meeting took place in the presence of Mr. Ahmed Ould Sid'Ahmed, secretary of state for Arab Maghreb affairs, and the Libyan charge d'affaires in Nouakchott.

Following the audience, the Libyan official made the following statement to our colleague Abdallah Mamine:

[Begin Rajab recording] I am in Mauritania, a fraternal country. Therefore, we are in our own country—this is natural. We are Arabs and we are members of the Maghreb Union. We are brothers with one fate and one future.

I was honored this morning to be received by his excellency the president, to whom I came first to convey the greetings of his brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Libyan Arab Socialist Jamahiriyah, and also to convey to him his brother's opinion on the events and false accusations that are being leveled today against the Jamahiriyah. I also came here to make clear to his excellency the president the Great Jamahiriyah's position that such accusations are false—the Jamahiriyah has absolutely nothing to do with such incidents. The Jamahiriyah would, furthermore, open its files to our Arab brothers and to anyone else who would allow wisdom, logic, and law to prevail in this matter in order to corroborate, ascertain, and investigate that such accusations were fabricated in order to harm the Jamahiriyah and the Arab nation.

We are innocent; we would resort to logic and law. We would like to resort to neutral parties, regardless of under which framework, be it an Arab, a Maghreban, or an Arab-international one, in order to corroborate and ascertain that such accusations are false. We in Libya would accept its finding.

Thanks be to God, we have found, as expected, his excellency the president to be understanding. We are one Arab nation, and if one of us is harmed the rest of us are also harmed. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Iraqi Minister Delivers Message to President

*JN0612183191 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1702 GMT 6 Dec 91*

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Dec (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn, President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy, has delivered a message from his excellency the president to his brother Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmad Taya. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries and developments in the Arab region.

The foreign minister delivered the message when the Mauritanian president received him in Nouakchott last night.

The foreign minister had earlier conveyed similar messages to the Moroccan, Algerian, and Tunisian presidents.

## Sudan

### Khartoum Accused of Backing Tunisia's Ghannouchi

*PM1012120491 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
7 Dec 91 p 1*

[By Zuhayr Qusaybati: "Ghannouchi Sources: He Will Return Neither to Sudan Nor to Algeria"]

[Text] A source close to Cheikh Rached Ghannouchi, leader of Tunisia's banned al-Nahdah Movement, yesterday denied that the Sudanese Government has withdrawn or canceled the passport that it issued to Ghannouchi. He emphasized that Ghannouchi surrendered his passport to the relevant authorities in Khartoum "for security reasons" and that he will not return to Sudan.

The source accused "a member of the Sudanese opposition of complicity in a plot to get rid of Ghannouchi." He reaffirmed that "Algeria did not expel him or decide to deport him" and that "he left it of his own free will following the infiltration of squads connected with certain security organs with the aim of implementing a plan to physically eliminate him." He emphasized that the Algerian officials who "provided protection to him also knew about the plan." He said that "the departure of some of Ghannouchi's supporters from Algeria may have been due to the expiration of their legal residence permits." He spoke of "a concern for personal safety which explains the leader's movements and that a few days ago he left London for another European city."

He added that "Khartoum has problems and is under pressure from international and regional circles" over the residence of Ghannouchi and some of his supporters in Sudan, "which still hosts some of his relatives." He said that the movement—accused by the Tunisian authorities of seeking to overthrow the regime through "a terrorist conspiracy"—still "adheres to its principle of establishing freedom and democracy in Tunisia by peaceful means."

He said that the movement "does not want to be a source of trouble for any party or state" hosting some of its symbols.

Political sources in Tunisia told AL-HAYAH that Ghannouchi and some of his aides were deported from Algeria. Last October Tunisia decided to withdraw its ambassador from Khartoum to protest what it saw as official Sudanese assistance to the al-Nahdah leader. The Tunisian Government organ LA PRESSE accused Sudan of becoming a "base for international terrorism."

### Al-Bashir Discusses Plans for Unity With Libya

*EA1012153291 Khartoum SUNA in English 1626 GMT
7 Dec 91*

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Oct (SUNA)—Chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] Gen 'Umar al-Bashir met Saturday [7 December] media and information representatives in the presence of the RCC chairman's press adviser al-Sadiq Bakhit and secretary-general of the Ministry of Information Amin Hasan 'Umar.

Gen al-Bashir reviewed in the meeting the expected role to be played by media and information bodies to demonstrate the integration between Sudan and Libyan Jamahiriyah in all its aspects - political, economic, cultural and social.

He called on them not to only reflect the news aspect in covering events in the two countries. Instead, reporting must analyse, evaluate and follow up integration in order to reflect the popular dimension. Integration between Darfur and neighbouring Libyan provinces turned a success despite the absence of information and communications, he said.

Gen al-Bashir affirmed that relations with Libyan Jamahiriyah are special and deep-rooted and within two years time they will move from the integration state to unity on the way to achieve Arab and Islamic unity.

The meeting reviewed information and press performance of different information bodies. Suggestions were discussed to support and consolidate integration between the two countries. Weekly meetings were decided for follow-ups.

## National Assembly Urges Congress To Lift Blockade

*JN0912135591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1249 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Dec (INA)—The National Assembly has stressed that the continuation of the economic embargo on Iraq is a flagrant violation of Article 22 of the international declaration on human rights, Article 1 of the civil and political rights agreement, and the 1966 agreement on economic, social, and cultural rights.

In a letter addressed to the U.S. Congress today, the Assembly said that the suffering of the Iraqi people is so bad that no human being could possibly remain silent on it; it is leading to a catastrophe that would kill millions of Iraqis if the unjust economic blockade were to continue.

The letter said that continuous interference in Iraq's internal affairs is a violation of and departure from the written and unwritten rules and principles of the international law. It is a serious precedence for some nations to impose themselves as trustees on other nations under the pretext of implementing Security Council resolutions, the letter added.

The National Assembly's letter called on the Congress to press the U.S. administration into changing its position, ending its interference in Iraq's internal affairs, and lifting the blockade against the Iraqi people, who are entitled to live like other world nations.

## Islamic Conference Blockade Resolution 'Scandalous'

*JN1112095091 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Dec (INA)—AL-THAWRAH has described the resolution adopted by the Dakar summit against Iraq as scandalous, because it constitutes a serious insult to Islam and Muslims. The resolution is also a disgrace to those who prepared, presented, and signed it. In an article today, the paper says: We were not surprised by what they decided, because we expected. In fact, we knew full well that the resolutions issued by a conference led by Washington's agents and small servants, financed by the grandsons of Bani-Qaynuqa' [Jewish tribe that lived in Mecca at the time of Muhammad] and the imposed rulers of Kuwait, and guarded by French soldiers will only serve the enemies of Islam and Muslims.

AL-THAWRAH notes that Iraq adopted the right decision to boycott the Dakar meeting, because it knew full well that Saudi Arabia, the group of its mercenaries, and the secretary general of the organization [Islamic Conference Organization], were preparing to turn the meeting into a stage to peddle the suspect American policies against Iraq.

The paper says: This is exactly what happened. Saudi Arabia and its followers from the agent regimes did what America asked them to do. They issued their non-Islamic resolution against Iraq, calling for the continuation of the unjust economic blockade on its militant Muslim people.

AL-THAWRAH asks: What Islam is that which calls for the continuation of the blockade against a Muslim people who waged the most honorable and loftiest battle against the forces of evil, infidelity, and tyranny in defense of the principles of justice, Islamic values, and the rights of the Muslims, the oppressed, and the manipulated nations in the world.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: Islam is the religion of justice, virtues, mercy, and tolerance; it is not the religion of deviation, bribery, and subservience to foreign forces. Islam is, therefore, innocent of what they did and decided. A decision ordered by the enemies of Islam and Muslims, adopted by agents, and signed by mercenaries and beggars will not disturb us, because it is a decision that has exposed those who stand behind it and has revealed the falsehood of their Islam and their departure from true Islam and its decent principles.

## Al-Majid Discusses POW's With Red Cross Group

*JN0912161791 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Dec (INA)—Staff Lieutenant General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, the defense minister, met today with an International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] delegation headed by Anglo Knid Nakar, director of Middle East and North Africa operations, and Arthur Pecik, chief of the ICRC mission in Baghdad [names of two officials as received].

The conferees discussed means of cooperation between the two sides, and the role of the ICRC's Baghdad mission in facilitating the continued exchange of POW's and in searching for missing nationals of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the allied countries that participated in the aggressive war against Iraq.

The head of the delegation valued Iraq's great cooperation with the ICRC in returning all POW's to their countries through the Baghdad mission, out of Iraq's commitment to international conventions and its respect for the humanitarian and ethical dimensions of the POW issue, and the need to resolve it as quickly as possible.

The defense minister said Iraq is ready to provide all facilities to enable the ICRC mission in Iraq to carry out its humanitarian duties, and end the tragedy of thousands of Iraqi prisoners held in Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait.

At the end of the meeting, the defense minister thanked the ICRC and members of its mission in Baghdad for their persistent work and patience in conducting the humanitarian search for prisoners and those who are still missing after the aggressive war against Iraq. He also valued the ICRC's efforts to return 35,000 Iraqi POW's still held in Iran.

## Deportees From Kuwait Arrive in Safwan Area

*JN0712185891 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Dec 91*

[Text] Al-Basrah, 7 Dec (INA)—A new group of Iraqi and Arab citizens, deported by the Kuwaiti authorities, arrived in the Safwan area, al-Basrah Governorate, today. The group includes the remains of two Iraqis who died as a result of torture.

A number of deported citizens told an INA correspondent in al-Basrah that the two martyrs were soldiers in the Iraq Armed Forces, were held during the withdrawal operations, and instead of being treated in accordance with international treaties, they, together with scores of other soldiers, were put in Kuwaiti jails and were tortured daily until they died.

A responsible source at the martyrs' evacuation center affirmed that marks of torture were clear on the bodies of the two martyrs and that they did not die because of their participation in military battles, as claimed by the Kuwaiti authorities, but because of physical torture.

## Citizens Return From Saudi 'Detention Camps'

### Group of 131 Returns 8 Dec

*JN0812113591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] Al-Samawah, 8 Dec (INA)—Taking advantage of President Saddam Husayn's noble decision to pardon the deserters, 131 Iraqi citizens have returned from the Saudi detention camps.

The returnees said they were happy and grateful for the noble decision which has provided them with the opportunity to live in their country and seriously contribute to the campaign of reconstructing great Iraq. [passage omitted]

### Group of 90 Returns 10 Dec

*JN1012161791 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1233 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Excerpt] Al-Samawah, 10 Dec (INA)—Taking advantage of the decision to pardon deserters, a new group of 90 Iraqi citizens today returned home from detention centers in Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

## Commentaries on POW Exchange Issue With Iran

*NC0912094291 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio in Persian 0530 GMT 2 Dec 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear Iranian brothers and sisters: We have repeatedly spoken to the Muslim peoples about closing old dossiers. Our remarks have not been baseless nor have they been threats, but result from the aggressive plans arrogance is hatching, placing nations in front of intensifying danger and daily adopting more threatening aspects which will not exclude Iran. It is up to Islam's people and all the toiling and deprived peoples to learn from past years' bitter experiences and prepare for such dangerous conditions. This readiness is one of struggle's requirements.

Despite these warnings, there are apparently people unable to understand what we have said: Otherwise why should Iranian leaders not accept closing the old dossier by taking the first step, releasing Iraqi prisoners of war and claim that there are only 421 Iraqi prisoners? Treating Iraqi prisoners so irresponsibly proves that Iranian leaders still have their doubts about taking the first determining step to close the old dossier.

O people of Iran: We believe that the release of the Iraqi prisoners will be the first step to closing the old dossiers. When the problem is solved you will see new horizons opening up in front of you. No longer will you be deprived of paying pilgrimage to the holy shrines, which have been renovated on the orders of his excellency Saddam Husayn, president and leader, and are waiting to welcome all Muslims.

We do not say this to provoke but because we know that this painful deprivation is due to the Iranian leadership's continued insistence on an issue that should have been solved a long time ago.

### Iranian President's Remarks Viewed

*NC0612171791 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio in Persian 0530 GMT 5 Dec 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear children of the Iranian people, dear brothers and sisters: The Iranian people think they have no other choice, but to do whatever Hashemi-Rafsanjani says after 13 years of oppression, massacres, and fatwas. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his regime should know, however, that the children of Iraq are not at all ready to do what he wants them to do as they proved in 1979. The Iraqis have shown the entire world that they are not prepared to do what Bush and his administration and the East and West tell them, let alone Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his likes. Iraq and the Iraqis will do whatever they want to do. The Iraqis are inspired in this respectable and religious stance by the heroic stance of Imam Husayn, peace be upon him, in his fight against evil. This is why Iraq was the target of an armed and extensive aggression in which 30 countries and Hashemi-Rafsanjani's regime participated. Therefore, we tell Hashemi-Rafsanjani to clearly remember the damages inflicted on Iraq due to his refusal to help it when Iraq suffered because it was not prepared to do what others wanted it to do. If Hashemi-Rafsanjani had sat down and thought for 10 minutes about the situation, he would never have said that only 400 Iraqi POW's are willing to return to Iraq.

We tell Hashemi-Rafsanjani: Even though many Iranians have fled from Iran because of your regime's suppression and millions of Iranians have fled abroad to save themselves from the bloodbaths and crimes of the Revolutionary Guards and Khalkhali, an Iraqi will never flee his country, even if he is offered all the world's riches. If an Iraqi leaves Iraq because of (?certain needs) and emigrates to another country, his only wish is to die in Iraq, in the land Imam 'Ali and Imam Husayn, peace be upon them, and of Abu Hanifah, al- Mansur, al-Mu'tasim, al-Hadi, and the Imam of the Ages al-Mahdi. Yes, the only wish of an Iraqi who has left Iraq is to be buried in the pure ground of his homeland.

In addition, Hashemi-Rafsanjani is more aware than anyone how the Iraqis defended Iraq. He knows that from Japan, Iran, Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan to Malaysia, China, and the Philippines there are millions of people who want to be buried in Iraq. Hashemi-Rafsanjani himself wants that. Yes, he wishes to spend the rest of his life next to the shrines of one of the imams and pray for forgiveness for his sins.

Dear listeners; alert and Muslim people of Iran: How can anyone accept the fact that more than 20,000 Iraqi POW's, the names of all of whom have been registered at the International Red Cross, all refuse to return to Iraq? How is it that only 400 have agreed to return to their homeland?

Can any logical person believe that thousands of Iraqi POW's, who have parents and families, wives and children here, do not want to return to their homeland and their homes? Who have these prisoners told this to? What official source have they talked to about not wanting to return to Iraq? Have they told the International Red Cross or the United Nations? Have they informed the Hashemi-Rafsanjani regime and his executioners? Maybe Hashemi-Rafsanjani is unaware that even if some of the Iraqi POW's were married in Iran, we are very confident that the Iranian women themselves would want to flee with their husbands the hell that Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the Iranian leaders have created in their country.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani should know that Iraqis do not do what others tell him to do. Let him tell others what he wants them to do. Maybe Hashemi-Rafsanjani has murdered or tortured prisoners and is terrified that the remaining ones will reveal the crimes that he and his regime have carried out. If that is the case, he should have known not to violate international principles, norms, and regulations. He does so because he thinks the world is a vast field which he controls and in which he can treat people however he wants.

We are on the eve of winter. Winter will end and the disgraceful will be disgraced.

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## UK Minister's 'Insolent Threats' to Libya Denounced

*JN0612153391 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Dec (INA)—The AL-THAWRAH newspaper has denounced the new insolent threats made by Douglas Hogg, British minister of state for foreign affairs, that aim at prejudicing the national sovereignty of fraternal Libya.

In an article today, the newspaper says that the U.S. Administration, supported by its Western allies and those who wrongfully allied themselves with it, has found, in the fragile position of its allies, fertile ground to brandish the whip in the face of fraternal Libya, without taking into consideration any Arab or international demands. Warnings have been issued this time from an Arab capital via Douglas Hogg, who arrived in Cairo last Wednesday, in a brazen tour during which he has been making misleading statements to prejudice national Libyan sovereignty. Hogg also started a campaign aimed at forcing the fraternal country into recognizing a suspicious decision made by the Americans, in coordination with the British. The decision has also been promoted by the French and the rest of the European entourage, who enjoy propagating anti-Arab stands voiced by the United States, just like what happened in the scheme that paved the way for the aggression against Iraq and which ended up by embroiling some Arab regimes and making them contribute concretely to justifying this aggression first, and to take part in it, showing a level of enthusiasm which the original planners of the aggression failed to exhibit.

The newspaper explains that Hogg has found the atmosphere suitable for him to accentuate the tone of threats, since he was the guest of a faithful ally. London radio reported that Hogg announced after his meeting with Husni Mubarak in Cairo, that the least Libya should do is extradite the two Libyan nationals accused by the West of blowing up an American airliner over the Scottish village of Lockerbie three years ago. This would be in the interest of Libya and al-Qadhdhafi, Hogg believes. This statement is a public announcement that failure to extradite the two nationals—given that Libya insists it will not extradite them—means that our Libyan people, as well as Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, could be punished.

The newspaper adds: Had he not found a comfortable climate in Cairo, and had the meeting of this insolent official with Mubarak not given him comfort, he would not have dared to make new threats, given that the least that could be said about these threats is that they do not take into consideration the fact that Hogg is on Arab territory. But, how can this official have any sense of responsibility when he finds that the fragile position of his host give him the right to overstep his bounds and to take lightly the simplest rules of tact, that oblige a visitor to an Arab country to respect the traditions of its people?

The newspaper wonders: Can we expect Hogg to commit himself to what Husni Mubarak himself has publicly relinquished? Can we expect the one who does not own something to give us that thing? Can the United States and the West, given Arab subservience and collusion, use a language that is not insolent?

The newspaper stresses that Hogg's insolence substantiates the above argument. Those who have succumbed to the enemies of the nation are not expected to come back to their senses, and cannot be expected to champion Arab rights.

However, the battle-hardened men of the Arab nation who have realized the correct path by challenging the forces of darkness and aggression will champion dear Libya and its fraternal people.

### Arab League Position on Libya Viewed

*JN1012100491 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Dec (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH warns against the belligerence of the U.S.-Western aggressors, and their new attempts to divide Arab ranks and turn them into a prime springboard for tampering with the Arab nation's security and resources.

In an article published today, the paper comments on the anti-Libya campaign, and the British discontent with the Arab League's solidarity with Libya. Britain, the paper maintains, is not only concerned over the possible achievement of the objectives of its campaign against this fraternal country. Britain, as a matter of fact, is showing real fear that a semblance of awakening, prudence, and vigilance might be revived in official Arab quarters, the paper states.

The paper adds that the Arab situation is certainly not at its best. Besides, the paper notes, the wide and far-reaching loopholes within the wall of pan-Arab security still encourage plunderers, adventurers, and mercenaries of the new world order to come for a prize. Even this negative state of affairs no longer satisfies our enemies, whose declared objective today is to do away with everything that is Arab once and for all, the paper says.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that the declaration of the Arab League's solidarity with Libya has, of course, failed to measure up to the challenge posed. The paper adds: However, this was the least the Arab League could do. Nevertheless, it is no longer deemed acceptable by the United States and Westerners for the Arabs to show solidarity with one another even if this were to be confined to rhetoric. Moreover, it is no longer deemed acceptable for the Arab League to be anything other than a fragile structure whose only function is to provide covers for various aggressive campaigns, similar to the one launched against Iraq.

The paper points out that Britain and its U.S. master are incapable of comprehending or accepting any indicator, albeit a weak one, that the Arabs have adopted a unified position vis-a-vis a certain issue, particularly if that issue concerns the West, such as the case involving an anti-Libya aggression. Such an indicator, the paper notes, might show signs of growth and expansion in a homeland meant to remain fragmented and subservient in terms of resources and decisionmaking.

### Official Says 9 Dec 'Watershed' for Palestinians

*JN0612163991 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1517 GMT 6 Dec 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Dec (INA)—Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, has hailed the intifadah of the Palestinian Arab people against the brutal Zionist suppression.

In a statement to INA on the fifth anniversary of the intifadah, Hammudi said that 9 December is a watershed in the struggle of the Palestinian masses inside the occupied homeland, launched to gain freedom from the yoke of the settlement occupation of expansionist, racist Zionism.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudi added that the third Arab Popular Forces Conference in Baghdad asserted its constant, principled support for the rights of the Palestinian people and their glorious intifadah, and urged the Arab nation to extend material, political, media, and moral support to strengthen the steadfastness of the heroes of the stones, and to escalate their heroic struggle against the fascist crimes of occupation authorities and fanatic Zionist settlers.

He also asserted that the intifadah of the people of Palestine represents a qualitative shift in the march of the Palestinian struggle under the leadership of the PLO—the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The intifadah, moreover, embodies the maturity of popular awareness, the accumulation of experience in struggling, and the appropriate choice of revolutionary methods on a solid foundation of cohesive national unity, among the Arabs in Palestine, in their various struggle factions, so as to liquidate aggression and stop settlement activity and intensive Jewish immigration to the usurping Zionist entity.

Concluding his statement, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi stressed that perpetuating the momentum of the valiant intifadah, and extending real support for it, would guarantee the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people—primarily their right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishing their independent state, with Jerusalem as its capital, under the leadership of the PLO—and would also thwart all imperialistic-Zionist schemes.

### 'Unnecessary Expenses' Due to Ministry Decisions

*JN0712204591 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 5 Dec 91 p 4*

[Na'im Husayn 'Abd-al-'Aziz article: "Why All This Expenditure?"]

[Text] Some ministries and departments are making amazing decisions under these critical circumstances. We find that certain state departments are issuing decisions as though they were living in isolation from the inhuman blockade around our country, which covers every commodity, including food and medicine. This is even as we appeal for economizing on everything, especially imported materials, which are a burden to the treasury and a drain to our reserves.

Yesterday, the Trade Ministry came up with a harsh decision by which it kept from supplying families with their needs unless all the family members, even those below elementary school age, present their identity cards. It is well known that six or seven years old children are given identity cards, but those who are under that age can present their birth certificate. There is no need to burden families with expenditures pertaining to red tape, pictures, transportation, and other things. An identity card is obtained when a child reaches the age of six.

The abovementioned decision will result in crowds at photographers studios and in consuming a great amount of printing paper and other photographic materials, burdening the families with unnecessary expenses. The birth certificate could serve until the child reaches the age of six. Those who are less than one year old will be classified in the baby milk category, others can be placed in the foodstuffs category. This will save citizens the red tape procedures at the state departments.

We had the health card before this decision was made. The Health Ministry printed millions of cards with all the expenditure that this entailed. Pictures were demanded from 18 million Iraqis for no useful purpose.

In conclusion, we note that the photographic materials, the printing paper, and other materials are almost exhausted because of the blockade. The photographic expense for unjustified paperwork has reached the exorbitant price of 10 dinars.

We are living under a stifling siege and we should use all imported materials as sparingly as we can because the blockade might continue. We hope that we will not receive ready-made answers or nervous reactions for pointing out practices that are improper in terms of both their place and timing.

## President's Office Urges Cabinet Reform Proposals

*JN0612190491 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 4 Dec 91 pp 1, 2*

[By unidentified correspondent]

[Text] The President's Office has urged a reconsideration of several laws. It stressed that the text of these laws must be clear and drafted in proper Arabic, and also that it should not lend itself to conflicting interpretations or explanations. Furthermore, the President's Office noted the need for all ministries, as well as government departments not affiliated with ministries, to exercise their monitoring roles to stem corruption in government departments and the exploitation of government positions.

The President's Office recommended that each and every ministry and each and every government department, set up controls to check the conduct of some officials who exploit their official positions for selfish purposes. The office advised that these ministries and departments should facilitate the handling and completion of citizens' transactions, in line with current laws, without any undue delays.

Moreover, the President's Office endorsed the proposals submitted by the Council of Ministers regarding the tackling of administrative corruption.

The proposals submitted by the Council of Ministers total 23 in all. They provide for the following:

—Ministries, as well as departments not affiliated with ministries, should submit proposals demanding a reconsideration of emergency laws, to bring things back to normal and revoke the powers and authorities acquired by some officials under emergency circumstances, so as to preclude any cases of exploitation.

—Legal documents must be drafted in accurate and clear terms. Adequate details must be provided to preclude the need for unsafe interpretations. It would be preferable to attach a detailed and explanatory memorandum to each law to help enforcement agencies know the real intentions enshrined in the text when an ambiguity arises, or when differences of opinion surface due to ostensibly conflicting texts.

—It would be preferable to modify laws with other laws, rather than by decisions, to ensure that articles of the law remain firm and complete. Ministries and departments should take this into consideration when they submit their own proposals to higher authorities in this regard.

—An investigating magistrate must be assigned to each and every police department or station. His office must be situated on the department premises, or nearby, since this would facilitate measures, alleviate the burden on citizens, and help reconsider the makeup of the judicial police to render them capable of performing their tasks in the best possible manner. The position of a judicial investigating officer must be introduced at the Ministry of Justice. Approximately 200 investigating officers are needed. They must be graduates of a law school.

—Competent ministries must submit a joint proposal to address the problem originating from the fact that several departments are sometimes responsible for completing a single transaction, such as building-license transactions, bid-awarding transactions, etcetera. Personnel sections at the Council of Ministers' Secretariat and the National Center for Planning and Administrative Development should submit specific proposals to correct this problem.

—The positions of those whose work brings them into close and direct contact with people should be changed, and they should not be allowed to maintain these positions for long periods of time.

—Periodic changes in the membership of permanent committees, whose work has to do with markets, must be effected.

—The boards of directors at public sector firms, and granting members of these boards sufficient rewards must be reintroduced.

—The role of internal and external monitoring must be enhanced. The competent ministries must draft and set up specific measures to put this into effect.

—Emphasis must be placed on drafting measures that will ensure the absence of friction or problems between government employees and citizens who report to them. Whenever possible, citizens must be allowed to report exclusively to an external information department, that would provide them with any information they might need regarding their transactions and the measures taken regarding them. Controls must be set up to organize the work of such information departments. Whenever possible, the government official concerned must not be approached about such transactions.

—When the issue concerns the completion of pension transactions for deceased persons, the statements made by the deceased person's relatives must be considered sufficient. Such transactions should not be sent to police stations to obtain the statements of mukhtars and witnesses. The mukhtar could be asked to provide a written undertaking in front of the competent official.

—The use of other people to enquire about the state of affairs of transactions, when the issues concerned involve legal or financial aspects whenever possible and confining the right to conduct such enquiries to those who carry notarized powers of attorney, must be prohibited.

—The opportunity for retirement or resignation in a balanced manner for employees must be granted.

## Autonomous Region Citizens To Seek Compensation

*JN0812132691 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 5 Dec 91 pp 1, 7*

[Text] The central authority of the fund for the relief of those harmed [by the 30-state aggression and events of the chapter of treachery and treason in the Mother of Battles] has decided to accept applications for compensation from those in the autonomous region in order to guarantee their rights.

This came in a statement to AL-'IRAQ by an official source of the fund. The source added that a six-month deadline has been set for accepting these applications.

He also said that relief committees in the governorates have been authorized to hold bazaars and collect donations by holding auctions to finance the relief fund, which aims to compensate citizens whose possessions were damaged, as well as to compensate for death and disability resulting from the 30-state aggression and the events of the chapter of treachery and treason in the Mother of Battles.

He said that those seeking compensation in the Baghdad Governorate could submit their applications at the governorate's secretariat for consideration by the committee formed for this purpose. The central authority will receive objections by citizens from all governorates in Iraq regarding compensation in accordance with the law on relief No. 28 for 1991.

## Attacks on Regime Officials, Relatives Reported

### Defense Minister's Cousin Killed

*NC1012152391 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The men of the blessed Sha'ban intifadah affirm that they are determined to take the road of jihad to defend the dignity of the sons of our people and to react to the irresponsible conduct of the henchmen of Saddam, the enemy of the people. Groups of our brave revolutionaries are still taking revenge on the criminal Saddamists and destroying their evil lairs.

In this context, a revolutionary group of the sons of rebellious Mosul recently ambushed the cousin of criminal 'Ali Hasan al-Majid. A total of eight of his henchmen were killed in the ambush, while the criminal himself was seriously wounded in the leg.

Another revolutionary group in al-Basrah Governorate inflicted the just punishment on criminal Ahmad Najm Sa'd al-Tikriti, Saddam's intelligence official, after burning his car.

The criminal 'Aflaqites will continue to be the subject of strong blows until reckless Saddam, the destroyer of the holy places, and the tools of injustice and terrorism who are rallied around him are overthrown.

### Intelligence Personnel Ambushed, Killed

*NC1012155591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The popular force in al-'Amarah has confronted the units of the so-called emergency forces which tyrant Saddam ordered to search the southern Iraqi areas.

Sources of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq said that a group of Iraqi people has ambushed a car in which five of the tyrant's intelligence elements were travelling and succeeded in destroying it and killing those inside. The intelligence men killed in the operation were: 'Adil Saddam, Muhsin 'Abd, Majid Muhammad, 'Abbas [surname not given], all of Baghdad, and Hasan Talib from the al-'Aziziyah section of al-Kut.

## Rebel Radio on 'Line of Defense' Around Baghdad

*NC1012153091 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The regime recently withdrew its mercenary troops from several areas to set up a line of defense around Baghdad as a result of its fear of the wrath of our rebellious people. In this context, the Saddamist troops that were deployed in the area of (Fassurah) in Irbil have withdrawn over a period of three days in the direction of Mosul across the area of [name indistinct] to prepare for withdrawal toward Baghdad.

In another development, the 2d Brigade, which was deployed on the peripheries of al-Sulaymaniyah, and the units deployed in the border areas have joined the criminal Saddamist forces near Baghdad. These forces are acting as a human shield to protect the head of the criminal regime.

## Military Industry, Defense Ministries Separated

*NC1012154891 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Defeated Saddam is hopelessly trying to run some of his institutions by himself as a result of the state of disintegration within the collapsing Saddamist regime. He recently separated the so-called Military Industry Ministry from the Defense Ministry, entrusting the former to the so-called presidency of his loser republic.

This conduct on Saddam's part was the result of the lack of confidence in his henchmen in addition to the existing differences among the members of his family and retinue.

It is worth noting that the 'Aflaqite Military Industry Ministry had been annexed to the Defense Ministry when criminal Husayn Kamil was appointed head of this institution.

## Kurds Note 'Positive' Turkish Policy Shift

*NC1012161691 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Ankara, Dec 10 (AFP)—Leaders from Iraqi Kurdistan will meet in northern Iraq Wednesday to assess a shift in Turkish policy away from an anti-Kurdish bias, a Kurdish leader said.

Jalal Talabani, leader of the Iraq-based Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, told AFP that Kurds were "very grateful" for Ankara's change of heart.

Talabani's movement is a major component of the eight-member Front of Iraqi Kurdistan alliance which is to meet in Halifan.

Turkey's shift was "positive and friendly", he said.

Mas'ud Barzani, leader of Iraq's Democratic Party of Kurdistan which is another member of the anti-Saddam alliance, would attend the meeting, Talabani said.

Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel said during a visit to Turkey's predominantly Kurdish southeastern region Sunday that Ankara "recognizes the Kurdish reality".

"Turkey cannot remain indifferent in the case of butchery in northern Iraq by the Iraqi Army because Iraqi Kurds are the brothers of the Kurds in our country", he said.

Talabani said Kurds appreciated the new attitude of the Turkish Government which was showing its desire of democracy and supported the just struggle of Iraqi people for democracy.

The Turkish decision "helped to raise the moral of the Kurdish people", he added.

Hundreds of thousands of Kurds in northern Iraqi cities have staged protests since Saturday against an economic blockade of Kurdish settlement areas by Baghdad.

Talabani said 800,000 people took to the streets in the city of Irbil on Monday.

A Front of Iraqi Kurdistan communique issued here Tuesday meanwhile called for an extension of the ban on Iraqi flights north of the 36th Parallel to the 35th Parallel.

The ban was imposed by Gulf war allies after Baghdad put down a Kurdish rebellion against central authorities last March.

Unlike Barzani who has held talks with Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn, Talabani said "in my opinion, (there is) no chance of discussion with a dictatorship."

## Shamir Notes Progress in Washington Peace Talks

*TA1112073591 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0700 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Report by Sarit Mikha'eli from Jerusalem's King David Hotel]

[Text] There is a feeling of progress in the Washington talks according to the reports I have received from there, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said. The prime minister said a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation was agreed upon in the Madrid talks, and Israel has no intention of giving in on that.

[Begin Shamir recording] I believe that those problems will be resolved. I have no doubt our position is justified, and I hope we will manage to convince our neighbors and interlocutors. I hope some progress will take place on that issue today. [end recording]

The prime minister made the remarks after breakfasting with German President Richard von Weizsaecker.

## U.S., Israel 'At Odds' Over Multilateral Talks

*TA1112054391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Israel and the United States are at odds over the format of the multilateral talks due to begin in Moscow next month. Israel wants five separate committees to discuss the region's water problem, the economy, arms control, refugees, and legal matters.

The United States wants just two committees, to discuss arms control and human resources.

The director general of the Foreign Ministry, Yosi Hadas, will head Israel's delegation to the multilateral talks.

## Hostage Negotiator—Both Sides in 'War of Nerves'

*TA1012221891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2200 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Uri Slonim, a member of the team negotiating the release of the POW's and MIA's, returned to Israel tonight after meetings with UN personnel. He noted that all the parties involved are currently engaged in a war of nerves. Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports that according to Uri Slonim, Israel still holds many additional terrorists who could be exchanged for our prisoners.

Uri Lubrani, who coordinates the issue of the POW's and MIA's, said on television this evening that he received no new information from the UN secretary general on the fate of our men.

## Ghali Said To Continue Efforts To Free POW's

*TA1112135791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador Muhammad Basyuni has said he is sure that the incoming UN secretary general, his countryman Butrus Ghali, will continue the outgoing secretary general's efforts to free all POW's and hostages. Our correspondent Nati Silberman reports that Ambassador Basyuni toured the Nesher local council today and, while talking to journalists, called on the sides to the negotiations in Washington to stop dealing with procedural issues and to get down to substance. He expressed the hope that he will pay a return visit to the township next year accompanied by the Syrian, Lebanese, and Jordanian ambassadors.

## Baraq Testifies on IDF Need for More Funds

*TA1012161391 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq, the chief of staff, is looking far ahead and says that for many years after the signing of a peace treaty, Israel will require the might of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] to make sure the contents of that treaty do not become a dead letter. The chief of staff made the remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Baraq believes that only in 18 months will it be possible to evaluate the outcome of the political process and know if it can have an impact on defense deployment. Dov Gilhar reports from the Knesset:

While in Washington and as the delegations are sitting around the negotiating table, the chief of staff was asked in the Knesset if the IDF can already start cutting back its forces and reduce its defensive deployment since the bells of peace are chiming. Not yet, Gen. Baraq says:

[Begin Baraq recording] In my view, it is very early to evaluate what will be the outcome of the entire peace process. I believe it would be correct to say that the end of 1993—a year and a half from now—is a good date to evaluate the development of the political process and see whether it will have or not have repercussions for action on our defense deployment. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

The chief of staff disclosed that in the 1993-94 budget proposal the Treasury plans to allocate several hundred million shekels less than it allocated to the IDF in 1992. He said that Israel will need the might of the IDF for many years to come after the signing of the peace accord.

[Begin Baraq recording] We must decide today what we will do in the coming years. We are certain that just as the might of the IDF was necessary to bring the Arabs to the negotiating table it will be needed for many years after the completion of such negotiations, even if the outcome is peace accords, to make sure that the contents of the treaties are not a dead letter. [end recording]

### Further on Baraq Remarks

*TA1112125891 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Dec 91 p A4*

[Excerpts] Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq warned that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] would be unable to formulate a comprehensive plan capable of meeting the defense establishment's operative and strategic needs if the cabinet did not keep its commitment and allocate an additional 500 million shekels to the IDF's budget annually, for the next five years, to finance its multiyear plan.

Appearing before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Baraq stressed that the amount of the IDF's 1992 budget for implementing the multiyear plan was still unclear. He said the original plan called for 5 billion shekels over five years, and 1 billion shekels was to be allocated in this budget year. However, the government actually only allocated 500 million shekels. This sum was also cut by 117 million shekels, so the best estimate now is that the IDF will get 383 million this year. [passage omitted]

Baraq warned that if the government and the Inner Cabinet did not accede to the IDF's demand, crucial defense projects may have to be canceled, with the money already invested in them going down the drain. [passage omitted]

### Ne'eman Visits Moscow for Space, Nuclear Talks

*TA1012111991 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 10 Dec 91 p 6*

[Text] Before leaving for Moscow last night, Professor Yuval Ne'eman, minister of energy and infrastructure and of science and technology, said that although he was invited by the Soviet Government, he may conduct meetings with the Russian science minister, who has been entrusted with dealing with issues pertaining to cooperation between Israel and the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

During his two-day visit, Ne'eman will also hold talks with scientists from the Soviet space program regarding cooperation with Israeli scientists and with the Haifa Technion on sending a spaceship to Mars in 1994.

While in Moscow, Ne'eman will also discuss cooperation on the development of satellites, as well as Israel's interest in purchasing nuclear reactors made in the Soviet Union.

Prof. Ne'eman explained that he was referring to a new type of reactor, which when combined with Western electronics, is considered today to be the best and safest reactor in the world.

Soviet Consul General Aleksey Chistyakov, who came to see Ne'eman off at the airport, said that the new Soviet ambassador is expected in Israel "in the very near future." The ambassador, whose appointment has already been confirmed by the Israeli Government, is Aleksandr Bovin. He has already been in Israel as a senior political correspondent for IZVESTIYA.

When asked what is the status of a Soviet consul general now that the Soviet Union is disintegrating, Chistyakov replied that he continues to serve as a representative of the USSR.

"If the various republics decide to appoint their own diplomatic representatives abroad, these ambassadors will work out of the Soviet Embassies, which will continue to operate everywhere. There has been no change in my status so far, and I am in constant contact with Moscow," the Soviet diplomat said.

### Georgian President Proposes Full Diplomatic Ties

*TA1012120691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The president of Georgia has proposed that Israel establish full diplomatic relations with his republic. In addition, he called for increased economic relations. The proposals were contained in a letter sent by the president of Georgia to President Hayim Herzog. The letter was delivered by Deputy Transportation Minister Efrayim Gur, who recently returned from Georgia.

### Germany's Von Weizsaecker Arrives for Visit

*TA1012154191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] German President Richard von Weizsaecker arrived in Israel this afternoon for a 24-hour visit. He left Ben-Gurion Airport for a meeting with President Herzog and then to visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial.

President von Weizsaecker came to honor a special concert given by the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, which will be held in Jerusalem this evening, whose proceeds will be donated to immigrant absorption.

### Scientific Cooperation Pact Signed With CSFR

*TA1012121691 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Dec 91 p 3*

[By Roni Mandelbaum]

[Text] The Israeli Academy of Sciences and its Czechoslovak counterpart yesterday signed an agreement on scientific cooperation. This is the first binding agreement between the two academies. Until today there had been no regular and constant scientific interchange between the two countries.

From the Israeli side, the agreement was signed by Professor Yehoshu'a Yurtner, the president of the National Academy of Sciences, while from the Czechoslovak side it was signed by the two vice presidents of the CSFR academy, Prof. Ladislav Macho and Prof. Vladislav Hanzl.

At the end of the ceremony, Prof. Yurtner said that the agreement will focus on issues in which Israel and Czechoslovakia share a common scientific interest, including the natural sciences, technology, and Israeli heritage.

According to the agreement, the Israeli and Czechoslovak academies will regularly exchange information and scientific publications. There will be an exchange program for researchers, the two countries will host joint scientific conferences, and advice on diverse scientific fields will be handed out at the request of either party.

### Chinese Television Proposes Program Exchange

*TA1012154391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] China's television has asked the Israel Broadcasting Authority to provide it with programs on Israeli scenic places, a ballet program, and a children's program. The appeal came from the international department of the Shanghai television and is the first of its kind. The Chinese have also offered to give Israel their programs.

### Demand for Industrial Space in West Bank Growing

*TA1012130391 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Dec 91 p C12*

[By Judy Maltz]

[Text] The Industry and Trade Ministry has decided to expand the Barqan industrial zone near Ari'el, the largest industrial park beyond the Green Line, in view of the increasing number of applications by Israeli firms in central Israel seeking to move to the territories. Seeing that the territories are considered a grade-A development area, industrial plants moving there are entitled to a grant equivalent to 38 percent of their investment.

A check conducted by HA'ARETZ shows that the number of industrial plants moving to Barqan and the number of new plants built there has increased significantly in the past year, after a few years in which economic activity in the area was frozen because of the intifadah.

Eliyahu Attiya, the Industry and Trade Ministry official in charge of industrial development in the territories, said that 15 firms, including Keter-Plastic and Rav-Bariah, have moved from central Israel to Barqan and that 15 other new plants have been built there in the past year. According to him, this rate of growth is far larger than that registered in previous years. Over 20 applications from firms, including Nehushtan, seeking to move to Barqan are currently in the pipeline.

Some 110 plants, employing 2,500 workers, operate at present in Barqan on an area of 500 dunams. The Industry and Trade Ministry has begun developing an additional area of 100 dunams to meet the rising demand for this location.

It should be pointed out that the U.S. Administration does not recognize products manufactured beyond the Green Line as Israeli-made and, consequently, these cannot benefit from the free trade agreement between the two countries.

Data released by the Investments Center shows that since the beginning of 1991, it has approved a total of $23.1 million to build and expand plants in the Barqan industrial zone. Some 117 million shekels have been earmarked in the 1992 state budget for grants related to investments in the territories, which attests to expectations for an increase in the rate of investments in those areas next year.

### Incidents, General Strike on Intifadah Anniversary

*TA1012133991 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Dec 91 p A5*

[By Eytan Rabin and Yosi Torpstein]

[Excerpts] Early yesterday morning, settlers distributed a flier in Ramallah and al-Birah, which have been under curfew since the killing of Tzvi Klein from 'Ofra at the beginning of the month. The flier, handwritten in Arabic, included a warning to the residents of these two towns.

It reads: "In view of the recent grave incidents, we, the Jewish residents of the area, will not remain silent. We know what we must do. Jewish blood will not be spilled indiscriminately."

It has been learned that the settlers held prayers at the site of Klein's killing yesterday morning. Palestinian sources reported that a short time afterwards windowpanes were shattered and the tires of Palestinian residents' cars were punctured. There was also a report on an Arab local who was beaten up by settlers in the area. Military sources have reported that the police are handling the investigation of the case. [passage omitted]

A bomb was discovered and detonated yesterday morning on a fuel truck at the Glilot fuel depot near the Giv'at Sha'ul industrial zone in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

A relatively small number of incidents was recorded yesterday in the territories. The fourth anniversary of the intifadah was marked by a general strike encompassing all the sectors. [passage omitted]

A young man tried to attack an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol with an ax in the al-Burayh refugee camp. The soldiers on the patrol fired at him. He sustained serious chest injuries and was transferred to Tel Hashomer Hospital. [passage omitted]

The IDF imposed a curfew on some Gaza villages and refugee camps, including Jabalyah, al-Shati', al-Burayj, and al-Shaykh Radwan. [passage omitted]

[Another report by Eytan Rabin on the same page of the same edition of HA'ARETZ notes that "the Nabulus military court yesterday sentenced a minor, 14 years and nine months old, to 12 years in prison, five of them suspended. He was found guilty of leading a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine squad. This is the first time a military court in the territories has handed down such a severe sentence to a minor."]

### Settlers Center—Steep Rise in Firearms Attacks

*TA0812191291 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Dec 91*

[Text] There has been a steep rise in the number of attacks involving firearms in the territories and in the number of Israelis murdered in the territories over the past five months. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that data complied by the 'Uvda [Fact] information center in Hebron show 103 attempted attacks with cold steel weapons during this period; 44 incidents of grenade-throwing; 69 incidents of shooting; and 481 cases in which firebombs were thrown in the territories.

Five Israeli citizens and one IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier were killed in violent incidents in the territories during this period.

### Human Rights Violations 'Decline' Reported

*TA0812121991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 8 Dec 91*

[Text] The organization for human rights in the territories, Betzelem, reports a decline in human rights violations in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza over the past two years. Betzelem presented its biannual report at a news conference in Jerusalem this morning. Mark Weiss reports:

Tomorrow marks the start of the fifth year of the Palestinian uprising in the territories, and Betzelem notes a considerable decline in the number of casualties inflicted by the security forces over the last two years. Yuval Ginbar of Betzelem attributes this to two factors:

[Begin Ginbar recording] First, the fact that certain aspects of the intifadah decreased in themselves, namely mass demonstrations and the like; secondly, I think the security forces are more careful now, they are less keen on chasing little boys into alleys, and they are more careful to observe their own opening fire regulations. This is, I hope, partly due to pressure by human rights organizations such as Betzelem. [end recording]

Betzelem also notes that important human rights successes have occurred over the last two years. Studies have resumed in elementary and high schools, nearly all the institutions of higher education have reopened, and for the first time senior Army officers have been brought to trial for illegal actions committed in the territories.

At the same time, Betzelem reports, extensive violations of human rights continue. Some examples cited are the continued demolition and sealing of homes, deportations, and the collective restrictions on large populations, such as the one-week curfew still in force in the Ramallah-al-Birah area following last week's shooting attack.

In the clearest terms to date, Betzelem condemns the murder of Palestinians by fellow Arab residents of the territories, as a clear infringement of the most basic right of all, the right to life.

The Israel Army spokesman, in a detailed response to the Betzelem report, stresses that the security forces are trying to reduce casualties and focus only on the hard-core activists involved in terror activities. The Army spokesman notes the increasing use of firearms by Palestinians and the fact that 16 Israeli citizens have been killed in Judaea and Samaria during the uprising.

### Report, IDF Response Detailed

*TA0912115491 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Dec 91 p A7*

[By Yosi Torpstein]

[Text] Betzelem, the Israeli information center for human rights in the occupied territories, yesterday published a report on the violations of human rights in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip over the past two years.

According to the report, since the beginning of the intifadah on 9 December 1987, 806 Palestinians have been killed by the security forces (127 in 1990 and only 95 in 1991). The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported that 709 Palestinians were killed in the four years of intifadah.

In addition, 471 Palestinians suspected of collaboration were killed by other Palestinians, of whom 316 were killed in 1990 and 1991. (The IDF data says that 513 collaborators were killed.)

Another 13 Palestinians were killed by collaborators. The report notes that 31 Israeli soldiers and civilians were killed in the territories (the IDF says 28), 66 Palestinians were deported from the territories, 425 houses were demolished, and 279 houses were sealed.

According to the Betzelem report, in the past two years, a decline was noted in many kinds of human rights violations through security forces' activity in the territories, except for land expropriation, which rose significantly. During that time, there was a decline in the number of casualties from IDF fire. The authors of the report explained that decline by noting the decrease in the strength of the intifadah and the fact that it changed from large- cale clashes with IDF troops to smaller clashes involving fewer people. The authors of the report also state that the smaller number of casualties indicates that IDF soldiers are more carefully observing their instructions on opening fire, and deal better with the events in the field. (For example, soldiers no longer chase children down alleys.)

A drop was also noted in the number of house demolitions. During the first year of the intifadah, 130 houses were demolished, while in 1991, the fourth year of the intifadah, the security forces demolished only 49 houses.

Censorship imposed on the Arab press last year resulted in a drop of one-third in the number of disqualified items. The Civil Administration in the West Bank has recently taken steps to ease the tax burden on the Palestinian population, although there still is a gap between the levels of income tax collected in Israel and the territories.

A special chapter in the report is dedicated to aspects of inequality before the law and clear discrimination between Israelis and Palestinians in the territories. Aside from discrimination in taxation and construction planning and supervision, the report notes that a comparison of sentences passed on Israelis charged with killing Palestinians and those of Palestinians who killed Israelis shows the distinct severity toward the latter. The Israelis were sentenced to several months of public service or imprisonment—the maximum being three years—while the Palestinians were given life sentences and their houses were demolished.

In response, the IDF spokesman reported that in 1991 there were fewer casualties of IDF soldiers' fire than in 1990: In 1991, 75 Palestinians have been killed and 1,376 injured, while in 1990, 93 were killed and 3,862 injured. In 1991, 158 Arabs were murdered by their own people, while 192 were murdered the year before.

The spokesman stated: "It must be remembered that the IDF was forced to deal with a large variety of violent activities, including riots, terrorism, and sabotage, the purpose of which was to cause the death of innocent people and to damage public and private property."

During the four years of intifadah, 16 Israeli citizens were killed in Judaea and Samaria. "Regrettably," the spokesman said, "Betzelem did not see fit to elaborate on the issue of Israeli fatalities. Last year there was a severe escalation in the use of cold steel weapons and firearms by local residents against the security forces and Israeli civilians."

Commenting on the phenomenon of Palestinians murdering Palestinians, the IDF spokesman noted that "in most cases, those murders were brutal and merciless. Those acts of horror were committed by the PLO, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], Islamic Jihad, and other organizations."

In a separate section dealing with medical services, the IDF spokesman noted that, as a rule, all humanitarian instructions are being observed in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. As the Betzelem report itself notes, there is no systematic denial of such services; rather there are irregular cases that do not represent the IDF behavior. According to the spokesman, each complaint that reaches the IDF is carefully investigated and fully taken care of.

Referring to the issue of curfews, the spokesman states: "A curfew is one of the Army's tools to protect security and public order. Curfews are being imposed according to prevailing needs. They are imposed only in extraordinary cases when they are necessary and there is no other way to protect the public safety and security."

As for the military courts in the territories, the IDF spokesman said that, as noted in the Betzelem report, improvements were made. "The report, however, did not mention all the improvements."

Referring to the lockup facilities, the IDF spokesman said that the Betzelem report is tendentious, one-sided, and does not note the many improvements that were made. According to him, it is not true that all detainees are being held in tents. He also claimed that recently fewer people are being held in detention centers, and the number of occupants there is lower than the maximum permitted by the regulations.

## Commentary Examines Intifadah Achievements

*TA0912123791 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Dec 91 p B1*

[Ze'ev Schiff commentary: "There Are Achievements As Well"]

[Text] The intifadah can be judged by the number of stones the Arabs are hurling at Israeli cars or by the number of mass demonstrations. It should, however, be judged differently: The four years of the Palestinian popular uprising has to be judged by its main achievements. We managed to have a better view of the Lebanon war and previous wars only after several years had passed. This is even clearer with regard to the intifadah, because a significant part of the initial Palestinian achievements was nullified when they sided with Saddam Husayn.

First and foremost, the intifadah continues. It is active and adopts itself to developments in the field. In the IDF [Israel Defense Forces], and especially in the Central Command, they say the claim that the intifadah has ended should in no way be accepted. Travel is indeed safer, but the intifadah has assumed different, often more dangerous shapes.

One of the changes for the worse is that the large-scale stone-throwing incidents have been replaced by a significant rise in the use of hand grenades, guns, and bombs. The activity has passed from the masses into the hands of smaller groups. This also explains the drop in the number of Arab casualties of IDF fire.

The answer to the question of what is the most important achievement of the intifadah to date can be seen in Washington: The beginning of a dialogue between the Palestinians and the representatives of the government led by the Likud and the extreme right-wing parties. It is hard to tell what the results of the negotiations will be, but it is clear that the intifadah made Shamir et al recognize the need to talk to the Palestinians. The method of negotiating the fate of the Palestinians with Egypt (as in the Camp David accords and the autonomy talks) or with Jordan has been abandoned. Today, the Likud representatives travel to Washington to meet the leaders of the intifadah from the territories, most of whom have served time in our prisons.

The current PLO leadership, headed by Yasir 'Arafat, is paying the price of supporting Saddam Husayn by staying out of the conference halls in Madrid and Washington. The intifadah presented a new Palestinian leadership from the territories, headed by Faysal al-Husayni. This leadership has already gained international recognition while recognizing the supremacy of the PLO leadership in Tunis. This is a pragmatic leadership, which is more attentive to events in Israel and which apparently views the Palestinian capabilities in a more realistic way. After the Madrid conference, this leadership managed to win the support of the majority of the Palestinian public for the political process. Its influence on PLO-Tunis grew significantly, and its ties with Washington expanded—which is another achievement of the intifadah.

The intifadah taught the Palestinian leadership in the territories—and apparently that on the outside as well—that it is impossible to advance the political process without Israel's consent, and that it is dangerous to wait endlessly for Israel to collapse from within, as they used to argue in the past. The leadership understood that even the most impressive achievements of the intifadah are limited. That is why it should accept the offer it absolutely rejected in the past, to advance toward the final agreement between Israel and the Palestinians in stages. The leadership realized that it would have to negotiate with the Israeli right, and do it through the United States. They managed to sell this fact to the PLO-Tunis leadership. In other words, because of the intifadah, the Palestinians had a better perception of their limited strength. This is a step toward political maturity. At the same time, it is hard to avoid the feeling that the maturity is not yet complete, and that in the future we might see some sudden peculiarity, such as their behavior during the Gulf war or their support for the aborted coup in the USSR.

Israel also understood the limits of its power. Just as the falling Scuds during the Gulf war made clear to Israel that at the highest level of power its power is limited, the intifadah made it face its weakness at the lowest level. A nation may have sophisticated weapons and missiles, an excellent air force, and a large army, but all of this will not put an end to a civil uprising. An attempt at civil disobedience may have been disrupted, but the occupation and control of another nation have gone on as if normal, and with it has come the corruption of the army. This realization was another stage in Israel's sobering up and another achievement of the intifadah.

## Arab Resident Killed in IDF-Initiated Operation

*TA1012185391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Muhanna 'Abd-Naji, a resident of Buruqin in Samaria, was killed in a village in the Janin District in the course of an IDF-[Israel Defense Forces] initiated operation. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the IDF unit came to the village to apprehend suspects. One of them began to run away, a pursuit ensued, he was called upon to halt, and when he refused he was shot and killed.

Army sources have reported that several suspects have been rounded up for interrogation in the course of the searches.

In Janin, a Border Police patrol detained two wanted men who had been involved in Molotov cocktail-throwing incidents on IDF patrols over the past few months. One of them was injured by border policemen fire as they were being detained.

## King Husayn on Peace Talks, Domestic Issues

*JN0912083591 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Dec 91 p 2*

["Major excerpts" of King Husayn's interview with UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, by JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand "before agreement was reached in Washington on the resumption of the bilaterals after Israel stayed away from the appointed Dec. 4 date"]

[Text] [Vivekanand] There is a feeling in India, and elsewhere in the Third World, that it has been left out in the ongoing peace process, having supported the Palestinian cause and the Arab cause throughout the years. What kind a message should they get from the ongoing process?

[King Husayn] I would like to respond to that by saying that there is progress in this region, as is the case with many in the world, towards addressing the basic problems of people of the region and their needs, their hopes and aspirations, and in particular at this point in time, all the changes we have seen in our world. The root causes of instability, that is the Palestinian-Israeli, the Arab-Israeli conflict, we can only recall and appreciate the support, the understanding and the solidarity with our many friends, our friends in India in particular, over the years, with regard to the principles and ideals we share with them, and the support for the just cause that would hopefully by addressed. What we are seeking is a just solution that provides all people in the region with their rights and an opportunity to enjoy, hopefully, the kind of peace that the future generation can live with and protect and are satisfied with.

We are proud of our friendship with India. We are grateful for the support we received. We are proud to see the relations between us grow and continue to grow, in all fields (and) in all areas. I believe that as far as we are concerned, we were together throughout the struggle until the changes that we have seen in the world, to fight for our rights, to fight for a better world, to struggle for a better future for our peoples.

Our heads have been held high throughout this period, and I look forwards to the question of future relations between us as naturally one that will take a very important place in our thinking and our actions that this relation will continue to be extremely close but also that the development will go further.

I haven't had the chance in the very recent past to do the dealogue with our many friends, and I treasure the memories of many many friendships over the years with the leaders of India. But that doesn't mean that it is not always in our thoughts and always in our hearts that whatever could be done to see this relation develops and if and wherever able to see an area for cooperation, we should work together as partners...

[Vivekanand] Within the Arab context and the ongoing peace process, do you think that there is a sufficient level of Arab coordination to fulfil the aspirations of the Arabs to resolve the conflict and to live in peace?

[King Husayn] I think that there is obviously a trend you see. We are very encouraged by it. I wouldn't suggest that the situation is as it should be. Coordination, as far as I know, is the definition of people getting together to discuss openly and freely, without anyone trying to impose their will on others, what is in their common interest. I believe this will happen. This must happen. But on the other hand, we have two processes that we are looking at, at this point in time. One of which has already begun, which is the bilateral negotiations—Palestinian-Israeli, Arab- Israeli—regarding the countries immediately concerned with the problem. The other is still to come and that involves all in the region and many in the world. And I believe that it is in the context that hopefully we will see opportunities opening up for addressing problems of the present and future in the entire region with the help of all our friends all those who are interested in the region. Obviously, it is important for all those who have been involved with us, in the pains we suffered, in the hopes that we had, and shared with us. At that point, I believe, there is much that can be done.

[Vivekanand] Let me be a little more specific. The so-called cancellation of a visit to Jordan by the Syrian foreign minister has been perceived as a sign of the lack of coordination between Amman and Damascus and that Syria has different priorities.

[King Husayn] I don't think it is right to put it that way. The perception may have been there, but the visit was meant to be by the technical group within the Syrian delegation to coordinate with us here, the Jordanian-Palestinan delegation; we are talking about the joint delegation in terms of the umbrella that was provided (and) that helped us get around as we did. And then there was going to be a visit by the foreign minister. But our internal changes here. Let me be very very frank. Things have been moving... We have been waiting for things for years. Suddenly things are moving so rapidly that at times it is almost impossible to accomplish all that is needed and required. But our relations with Syria continue to be very cordial and very close as brothers. And I hope in the future that the coordination and cooperation among all of us in this region will take a real meaning and sense of what we do and how we act.

[Vivekanand] Is there a move under way for an Arab summit so that the Arabs there assess post-Gulf was relations among themselves?

[King Husayn] There is a lot of healing to be done. I believe it has begun. And I hope that the opportunity will arise for the leaders to meet in the interest of the people, in the interest of future generations. As far as we are concerned, we certainly welcome any such opportunity and we will work for them.

[Vivekanand] It has been perceived that the recent change in government in Jordan was a setback to the democratisation process. Is it a stop-gap measure ahead of a qualitative leap in the democratic process?

[King Husayn] I believe that is a very good description. Once again, the movement of things has been far too rapid, even by our own approach. Following the disengagement (with the West Bank in July 1988), we had a chance for election. The legal and administrative disengagement, in response to Palestinian and Arab demand, with the West Bank. [sentence as published] It was impossible before. So we have decided on two tracks; one on redemocratisation and completely free elections in Jordan, and the other obviously the beginning of a dialogue that went through between people of all schools of political thought in this country within the context of the Royal Commission that ended up with the formulation of the National Charter. Well, that has not yet been translated into reality in our lives in the way that I would have liked to see it happen. I hope that this will be the case in a very short space where new laws will enable use to take the steps towards pluralism and obviously the consolidation of democracy. When that happens obviously the opportunity will be there for the people of Jordan within the broader, newer context of their agreement within the charter, the constitution, yet at the same time defining their direction in the future. There will be the chance to take the leap that you suggested that we are very hopeful that will be taken by all of us here in Jordan—the consolidation of democracy and popular participation, and respect for individual and human rights in the country as never before. Hopefully Jordan will be an example, a positive example, for that.

[Vivekanand] Is there a timeframe that Your Majesty has in mind for the process?

[King Husayn] The rapid movement on the peace process caught me in that respect, both personally and...so I had to go back to the people really to present the facts before them in a meeting similar to the national congress that we held to approve the National Charter. I had been engaged on so many different levels to try to meet the very rapidly changing scenes in the region and in the world. But as far as I am concerned, I hope these laws will be enacted as soon as possible and the opportunity will be there for the people of Jordan to take the step...

The people of Jordan are really the people that have gone through so much. When I speak of Jordanians I speak of people regardless of their origins who are members of one family and we certainly are united in terms of the National Charter.

My position is that of any elderly members of the family, observing that there is a balance between the legislators and the government and among all the different elements that comprise Jordan itself. I hope very soon that we will be in a position where the people pass their judgement on their experience in this period on the road to democracy that we are personally committed to. We are now in the third year of the life of the current parliament. There is one year left. The usual period is four years. But maybe...our important priority right now, as far as I am concerned, is to see that the National Charter is translated into facts in our lives. And then we will go back to the people and I believe that they will pass judgement on the past and lead towards the future and consolidation of democracy.

[Vivekanand] Essentially, the election law which will be enacted soon would mean the one-man-one-vote system?

[King Husayn] That will have to be worked out. I think that there were many areas that were controversial (during) the last elections and I think there are new realities in our lives now. Certainly, the recent crisis changed the situation on the ground now. So many of our brethren are returning to Jordan and if and when election are held they have to be taken into consideration (alongwith) any shortfalls in the past...

[Vivekanand] Your Majesty has asked in the past what the guarantee was that a constitutional monarchy as in the West was the best in the world. Would Your Majesty describe your involvement and the involvement of the Royal family in the running of the country as an executive monarchy?

[King Husayn] I think that so far under extremely difficult circumstances, it has provided continuity. It has been above any differences within the context of the family that Jordan is comprised of. It will continue to do that in the future. But my hope is that more and more, as time passes—and nobody is going to be there for ever in any event—people assume responsibilities. And I believe that we have a responsibility for the success of democracy because it will be a good example, hopefully, across the...if we really want a stable region and want to make a contribution for a better future not only for our region, but also beyond even...that something works, something that is very, very dear to us, that is very much in our hearts, its works. And I believe that it is the only guarantee for stability and continuity and the fulfilment of all our hopes and aspirations.

[Vivekanand] One of the things that have been accepted is that the economic front of Jordan is one of the main things that will enable the Kingdom to contribute positively to the peace process. Obviously that level has not been reached. What kind of an evolution of the economic process do you envisage?

[King Husayn] I think that we have many challenges. It is fairly obvious that due to our location and our history and our commitment to the Palestinian cause, in terms of Palestinan rights on Palestinian soil. [sentence as published] What we have had on the one hand was Israel and its growth and its ability to attain support in the past, in a different world to the one which we live in right now. Maybe with the idea that it was, in the minds of some, an element that served their interests in the context of a cold war with another superpower. That is one element. The other element is the fact that we here in

Jordan have been the recipients of every setback that has affected the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause. And we had to deal with it as part of our destiny. Add to that our means and our resources are nowhere in terms of the balance between what Israel had and what it received and what it could generate in the world and what we have received over the years. But I think what we have achieved is tremendous. In 1989, we had an economic blow which we did not anticipate. (It) was essentially a shortfall of a commitment made 10 years earlier, which was not forthcoming for whatever reasons in the way that we had foreseen and living up to it during that period with the exception of Saudi ARabia that honoured its commitment dutifully. Others... for varying reasons, were unable to do so. And recently then the return of 300,000 of our people to Jordan. So the economic conditions had been extreme; the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar in terms of its buying power, the return of 300,000 people to Jordan—which is 10 per cent of our population as we are here—as part of our country. Yet, we survived. And the survival, I believe, is attributable to one cause and one reason: the fact of the awareness of the people of exactly where we are, the pride they have in their achievements, and again democracy. The fact that everything was open, everything was clear. We have to address the economic conditions. Hopefully we will be able to do that in the future. Here also we have some chances to begin to focus our attention on what is to be done. We have suffered in past from brain drain. Now we have the opportunity of people returning. I think we have to look at everything, and I think, hopefully, we will be able to put the best people in the best positions, particularly the young amongst them, who are able and qualified, to enable us to take a quantum leap in not only looking at all the resources available and all opportunities and moving ahead in all areas of our economic life but in the field of education in preparing ourselves for the future and to continue to play a positive role for the progress of this region.

It is not easy, nothing is easy. Neither peace is going to come very soon—I think it is going to be a long struggle—nor are our economic conditions going to be resolved overnight. But if we know exactly where we are and where we want to go, we will be able to do our best.

[Vivekanand] It has also been accepted that without external economic assistance to the countries in the region, particularly Jordan, the peace agreements that will, hopefully, be reached in the negotiations cannot be maintained. What kind of response has your majesty received from Jordan's traditional friends in Europe and the West and elsewhere?

[King Husayn] I think there is great interest. And there is great interest. And there is hopefully a commitment to help and support Jordan, regardless of the peace process, in view of what it has had to cope with. But, if it is any consolation, if Jordan is, as is in the absence of peace, in need of help and support. [sentence s received I think the balance between its needs and what it has been able to achieve—whatever has come to Jordan is minimal when compared to what Israel has received. So if it is a question of self- sufficiency, in both cases, what we have done is a lot more. We have reason to be proud of what we have achieved in comparison with what has been the case with the state of Israel. On the other hand, obviously when we are talking about the next phase, that is beyond the bilateral negotiations going on right now, the multilateral dimension would be with the obvious interest and participation of many in the world, many states and many nations, then we will get the chance to look at a completely different scene, where hopefully there will be the opportunity to listen to some problems of all on a very large scale.

[Vivekanand] It has been acknowleged, even by some of Israel's supporters, including AIPAC, that the 1967 war was precipitated by Israel's need for water. And water as such is a scarce commodity in the region. There may not be enough to go around. What kind of arrangement does Jordan see as an acceptable arrangement with Israel as far as the water situation is concerned?

[King Husayn] I think this is a problem that is with us now: it is a very serious one. And it is a question of what is available. What is available is not enough, either for the Palestinians or for the Jordanians, even for the Israelis, I suppose. And so if we look at the possibility of peace this is going to be one of the major areas that have to be tackled. If we look at the region as a region then there are solutions, either with the resources available in the region or try to provide water through other means, modern technical means that would make it possible. But that can happen only in the context of peace. That is another reason why we have hope.

Of course there are other issues in the context of peace. When we talk about the bigger gathering that will hopefully begin to address regional problems, the participation of the Arab states and others in the world, (and) of both sides of the Arab-Israeli divide; there is the question of the Palestinian people in the diaspora, their rights, an Israeli can, as far I understand, have dual nationality, and what happens to the people, to the return, returned. [sentence, punctuation as published] There are lots of things that are to be attended to. But essentially, what we are talking about is: if we can base it on the foundations of a just peace that applies to the rights of the Palestinians on their land and the rights of all in this region to live in peace and security and respect for every dimension of it. If we have seen the destruction of the Berlin Wall, may be the wall of fear and suspicion and hatred and stability that have been so frightening and so far taken such a toll on everybody in this region for such long period of time can also be destroyed.

[Vivekanand] Eight or nine weeks ahead of the multilateral talks in Moscow, there has been no development as far as the Syrian position is concerned, and some of the Palestinians seem to support that, that unless there is progress in the bilateral talks, the Syrian participation in the multilateral talks could be in question. Are you optimistic that this problem could be resolved?

[King Husayn] I believe it would be resolved. I believe that it is right now a question of approach...based on different reasons. My own belief and feeling and that of my country is that really what can be achieved on the multilateral level will not only increase the chances of success on the bilateral level but will also be an added incentive to deal with matters on a much broader scale than was ever conceived of in the formulas that were available in the past—242, 338, land for peace whatever. The bilateral talks themselves—we are talking of the entire region, its needs and we are talking about the world's interest. If we look at it that way, all these moving together will end up in creating a different region.

[Vivekanand] How does Jordan view the Israeli absence in Washington (on Dec. 4)? In the same vein, Israelis say that one of the messages that they want to send the Arabs is that the Arabs are misled if they are seeking to get the Americans to pressure Israel to fall in line and accept international legitimacy. They say it is not true. How does Jordan look at this argument and the so-called Israeli message?

[King Husayn] It is not a question of the Arabs waiting. The whole world is waiting to understand this attitude and approach and to be satisfied with some explanation. But on the other hand, let us put it very, very clearly. I was talking about peace opportunities, the kind of peace that future generations can live with and can accept.

There are many questions that have risen of late. For example, some in Israel have suggested that 242 has already been implemented by the return of 90 per cent of the territory that was occupied in June of 1967. That is simply ridiculous...it was not my great friend President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir who went to the United Nations or to Washington to formulate 242. It was I. After the war of 1967, I visited with him. And his main concern at that time was the West Bank and Gaza and he put them way beyond the other issues, of Sinai and the Suez Canal, despite the fact that....the concern was there of accepting the responsibility for what happened in 1967 when we lived up to our commitment as members of the Arab League under the joint defence agreement to face together a war that Israel started on Egypt at that time.

(Resolution) 242 was very clear. It was the return of land for peace. I did not negotiate the return of Sinai to Egypt....the West Bank responsibility was mine. It was very clear that (Resolution 242) called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories occupied outside the boundaries of 1967. Regarding the West Bank it was a question of returning of territories occupied in the war itself. The preamble is very clearly derived from the charter of the United Nations on the non-admissibility of acquisition of territory by war.

In the case of the West Bank, there was one addition and that was the possibility of minor rectifications on a reciprocal basis subject to mutual agreement because it was a ceasefire line and not an international boundary as was the case with Syria or Egypt. And as far as Jerusalem is concerned, it was occupied territory. The Americans held on to the notion in any event but although that applied to Jerusalem that it was occupied in June of 1967. [sentence as published]

That the U.S. was neither supportive of Jordan's position nor of Israel's position in regard to the holy city and its status based on earlier positions accepted by the world regarding the importance of the old city to the three monitheistic religions. [sentence as published] To suggest that "we returned 90 per cent of the land"...it is something I haven't had the chance to comment on so far. But these are the facts.

The U.S. and Israel have been extremely close over the years. The U.S. has been a major benefactor for Israel throughout all these years. And if the question is that of meetings and discussions, well, explicitly it was impossible to have them anywhere else. The Israeli suggestions "have them in the area;" have them how? How can the Palestinians negotiate under Israeli occupation? Does it sound feasible in terms of Geneva conventions or any other norms? Or negotiate in the area? If you want to negotiate you can negotiate anywhere. The important thing is to cover ground. To start in Madrid that was fine, and when Washington was suggested that was fine; we moved there but they haven't shown up as yet, we hope they will in the near future. The important thing is to make progress and, I believe, to prove that if people are not afraid of war, they are not afraid of peace, here is the chance. Let them prove that they are not afraid of peace. And I hope that they will and I hope that we will get on with it instead of moving from place to place, going on a sight-seeing tour of the world. This is ridiculous. Let us get on with us and I hope we will. [sentence as published]

## King Husayn Returns From Islamic Summit in Dakar

*JN1112092291 Amman Radio Jordan in English 0530 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn returned home last night after heading the Jordanian delegation to the sixth Islamic summit held in Senegal's capital Dakar. His majesty addressed the conference yesterday on Arab and Islamic issues as well as the latest developments on the international arena. [passage omitted]

His majesty also held bilateral talks with a number of Arab and Islamic leaders for closer cooperation and boosting their joint action on all levels.

Returning with his majesty were Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir; 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah, chief of the Royal Court; His Majesty's Adviser Dr. Khalid al-Karaki; and His Majesty's Military Secretary Prince Talal Bin-Muhammad.

## U.S. Should Take 'More Decisive' Stand on Shamir

*JN1012094791 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Dec 91 p 1*

[Editorial: "Jordan Will Not Negotiate for the Palestinians"]

[Text] On the eve of the bilateral talks, which will resume in Washington today, Israel's Prime Minister Shamir has deliberately created around the negotiations an atmosphere charged with tension and provocation by putting impossible preconditions which, if they are not withdrawn, would disrupt the peace process.

Shamir insists that the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation must not be separated, that autonomy should be scaled down, and that the talks should be transferred to the region as of next Friday.

This insistence is an exposed attempt to push the peace process into an impasse.

It is known that Israel wants to create an atmosphere of tension around the talks. It also wants to plant mines and place obstacles before the peace proces, hoping to blow it all up.

It is also known that Israel is seeking to reap the results of the peace process in advance and to wrench the "normalization" card from the beginning, without offering anything in terms of Arabs' rights and occupied territories. It is persistently and relentlessly demanding the transfer of the talks to the region. Israel even refuses to recognize the Palestinian delegation as an independent party representing the Palestinian people.

Jordan's position was and still is clear and decisive on the method of Palestinian representation. This has been further emphasized by Dr. al-Majali, who renewed Jordan's rejection of negotiating on behalf of the Palestinians.

In any case, the results of the bilateral talks today could reveal Israel's intentions and the degree of its seriousness in rendering the peace process successful.

If Israel continues its intransigent positions and maneuvers, which are causing serious damage to the peace process, then the U.S. is required to take immediate action to save this peace opportunity, which may be the last, from the plot of Shamir and his Likud bloc.

The U.S. Administration bears primary responsibility for putting an end to Shamir's provocations and for forcing Israel to accept its proposals and ideas as well as the resolutions of international legitimacy.

When the Arab parties and the Palestinian side accepted President Bush's initiative and agreed to attend the peace conference, which the United States and the Soviet Union had called for, they cherished the hope that the Bush Administration would be neutral, fair, and committed to legitimate international resolutions and the land-for-peace principle.

Since the U.S. Administration is a partner to the peace process, it should deal with Shamir's maneuvers and intransigence with firmer, sterner, and more decisive stands. Otherwise, Bush's initiative and the entire peace process will be lost within a few days or weeks.

## IMF Focus on Deficit May Target Defense Spending

*JN0912132191 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Dec 91 p 7*

["Economic Talk" column by Dr. 'Abdallah al-Maliki: "Reform, Budget Deficit, and Defense Spending"]

[Text] For an unclear reason, the International Monetary Fund [IMF] is persistently concentrating, in a manner that causes concern, on the Jordanian budget deficit while at the same time insisting on allowing unlimited importation. Thus, it is confiscating Jordan's right to practice its economic sovereignty through banning imports.

The importance of reducing the budget deficit is that part of this deficit would be used to finance imports, thus deepening the deficit in the balance of payment "principle balance." It is incomprehensible therefore how the IMF is adamant on this issue while insisting on unlimited importation, which is the greatest factor that confuses the balance of payment.

The issue becomes more mysterious when we explore in depth the general financial situation in Jordan. There is no argument about the fact that the budget deficit can be covered by increasing domestic revenues, cutting spending, or a mixture of both.

The problem is that the Jordanian taxpayer is already exhausted by taxes and cannot endure more, and that public expenditure has also been squeezed to the maximum. The imposition of further taxes or a tighter squeeze on public spending would cause very serious disorders and social and economic rifts.

The IMF, which knows everything about the Jordanian economy, is well aware of these dimensions, but it intransigently and persistently stops at the budget deficit and wants to squeeze it, although all domestic pressuring capabilities have been exhausted and serious signs have emerged which indicate that such serious disorders and rifts are real and not mere theoretical or hypothetical illusions.

The IMF also knows that Jordan is trying to maintain and even consolidate its defense spending if possible. We are afraid that the IMF is targeting this defense spending, but it is unable to say it outright.

Therefore, it continues its pressure to reduce the budget deficit, aware that the limits of reasonable pressure have been exhausted, with the hope of forcing us indirectly to take the initiative and suggest reducing the defense spending. At this point, the mystery concerning the budget deficit starts to become clear. An aware person will see this.

## Muslim Brotherhood Statement Hails Intifadah

*JN0912115891 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 9 Dec 91 p 2*

[Text] Amman—On the occasion of the beginning of the fifth year of the blessed intifadah, deputies of the Islamic movement "The Muslim Brotherhood" have issued a statement condemning all the conferences seeking to end or subdue the intifadah.

The statement says: The blessed intifadah has completed four years of its long life and forestalled the wagers of enemies who thought it was a last desperate strike. It has actually emerged as a way of life and a torch of struggle nurtured by the blood of martyrs and injured, and inflamed by the groans of detainees and the suffering of people in holy Palestine. The following words of God the Almighty truly apply to them: Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God: Of them some have completed their vow to the extreme, and some still wait: But they have never changed their determination in the least. [koranic verse]

We, deputies of the Islamic movement "The Muslim Brotherhood," greet our heroes west of the river, headed by struggling hero Shaykh Ahmad Yasin, leader of the intifadah, while they are laying for their nation the bricks of the edifice of glory. Their only weapon is their strong-willed faith, which cannot be subdued by the intruding Jews and those who stand with them, or be weakened by those in our Arab and Islamic nation who gave in to their plans.

We also greet the rejectionist Palestinian forces and urge them to move from coordination and cooperation to cohesion and unity. We remind them that their place is in the forward trench against Jewish and U.S. arrogance and that they are not alone along this road. They are backed by the masses of our Arab and Islamic nation who understand the nature of Jews and believe that our struggle against them is one of existence and not borders, and that the only way to fully liberate the Palestinian soil from the sea to the river is through struggle and love of martyrdom, which you have chosen to do.

We also condemn all plots and reject those who directly or indirectly seek to stop or subdue the intifadah.

Finally, we tell all the rejectionist forces wherever they are: It is time for you to meet and draw up a practical program and an integrated, comprehensive plan to support, develop, and escalate the intifadah on the one hand, and mobilize all energies for the definitely approaching battle of destiny on the other.

God will certainly aid those who aid His cause;-for verily God is full of strength, exalted in might, Able to enforce His will. [koranic verse]

## Hostage-Related Statements, Movements Reported

### Israel's Arad Handed to 'Regional Party'

*NC1012125591 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1156 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Security sources in southern Lebanon told Radio Free Lebanon today that Israeli aviator Ron Arad's pro-Iran captors handed him over to an effective regional party two weeks ago. This development comes as part of a comprehensive solution to the issue of hostages and detainees, which it seems has reached its final stage.

### Shaykh Rules Out 'Ubayd-Arad Exchange

*NC1012180291 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad Talib Khalifah, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd's successor, has ruled out the possibility of exchanging 'Ubayd for the Israeli pilot Ron Arad. He called on Israel to release Shaykh 'Ubayd without any conditions or restrictions.

### Hizballah Accuses Israel of 'Blackmail'

*NC0912214991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Hizballah today accused Israel of blackmail by calling for the return of its missing soldiers before it releases Lebanese prisoners. Shaykh Na'im Qasim, deputy secretary general of Hizballah, has stated that his group has nothing to do with a missing Israeli air navigator. He said that Israel has no reason to maneuver because the hostages crisis has ended while the issue of the Lebanese prisoners held by Israel remains pending.

Qasim said that the problem of the two German hsotages is different from the earlier hostages issue because it is linked to the two Hammadi brothers.

### Shiite: German May Be Freed Shortly

*NC1012163691 Paris AFP in English 1607 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Ba'labakk, Lebanon, Dec 10 (AFP)—At least one of two German hostages held in Lebanon may be freed in the coming days, a Lebanese Shiite fundamentalist source told AFP on Tuesday.

"Arrangements between Germany and the captors of two German hostages, through Iranian and Syrian mediation, have entered an intensive phase and are on the verge of leading to a consensus to let us close the file before year's end," the source told AFP.

His comments were in marked contrast to an earlier report from Iran's official news agency IRNA that efforts to free the two German hostages had run into trouble because the family of two Shiite militants jailed in Germany opposed the release of the Westerners.

The Mujahidin for Freedom has claimed responsibility for the May 1989 kidnapping of German relief workers Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig and is demanding the release of Muhammad and 'Abbas Hammadi.

Bonn has repeatedly ruled out an exchange for the two Lebanese Shiite Moslem brothers jailed on terrorism convictions.

"The settlement which is being negotiated deals with consecutive liberations" of Germans and Lebanese, the Lebanese source said.

"Therefore, a German will be freed in the coming days after which at least one of the Hammadi brothers will be released or will have his sentence reduced, before the second German walks free," the source added.

IRNA had quoted "informed sources" in Beirut as saying the family—believed to be close to the kidnappers—was "seriously opposed to current efforts to secure the release of the two Germans."

As a result, according to the agency, "efforts to set free the German hostages in Lebanon have been partly impeded."

### FRG Hostage Said Ailing

*NC1112123891 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic 4 Dec 91 p 1*

[Text] AL-DIYAR yesterday obtained information that the health of one of the two German hostages held in Lebanon is deteriorating. It is no longer possible for him to receive proper medical treatment because he needs to be treated by an intensive care unit. AL-DIYAR learned that hostage is suffering from a kidney disease.

## Israeli Military Movements, Reinforcements Observed

*NC1012180691 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Reports from al-Nabatiyah say that Israeli military movements were monitored this afternoon in (al-Tuhrah) and (al-Dabshah) positions. Israeli reinforcements were seen moving on 'Ali al-Tahir road toward Qal'at al-Shaqif.

### Aircraft Overfly Palestinian Camps 11 Dec

*NC1112101191 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has reported that Israeli warplanes overflew the south and Palestinian camps in Tyre this morning, breaking the sound barrier.

### SLA Militiaman Killed in Blast

*NC1112105791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Occupation troops and their agents have shelled the Jabal al-Dhahr heights and the Mimis region with heavy-caliber artillery. The shelling was accompanied by a large-scale combing operation from Birkat Mimis to the Marj al-Zuhur road. Reports indicate that an Israeli mechanized force advanced from the Marj 'Uyun to Hasbayya.

In response to the repeated acts of aggression, a Lebanese national resistance group detonated an explosive device against a patrol of the Israeli occupation troops and their agents near (Rimas)-Buslayya, inside the security border zone, killing and wounding a number of personnel. A spokesman for the Lahd militia [South Lebanese Army] admitted that the operation had occurred and said a militiaman was killed.

### UNIFIL, Amal Discuss Army Deployment Proposals

*NC0812102291 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 7 Dec 91*

[Text] Informed sources told Radio Free Lebanon this afternoon that in the past few days the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] met Amal Movement officials. Lebanese Army officers took part in some of the meetings.

UNIFIL suggested withdrawing completely from areas in which the Army will be deployed or keeping positions or observation posts in the areas. Amal Movement officials agreed the second suggestion, contacting Nabih Birri, who backed it, and Army Commander General Emile Lahhud, who also agreed, saying he was ready to deploy Lebanese Army units in areas to be agreed.

An expanded meeting was held last night at Finnish contingent headquarters in Burj Qallawiyah, attended by the UNIFIL commander, senior UNIFIL officers, Amal Movement officials, and key local figures. They discussed the latest outcome of the contacts. Amal Movement officials told UNIFIL that they agreed to the second suggestion, which the UNIFIL commander, who left for New York, will discuss with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. On his return from New York, the UNIFIL commander will meet Gen. Emile Lahhud on Monday and Tuesday.

Sources told our radio that the Army will be deployed in an area larger than any previously mentioned, including the Ghanian contingent's operational zone in Tyre district and the villages of Burj Rahhal, 'Abbasiyah, Bidyas, Dayr Qanun al-Nahr, Janata, Tura, Tayr Dibbah, Ma'rakah, (Hasrub), Barish, and up to (Dayr Daghyah) township, as well as Qana, al-Bazuriyah, (Dijuli), Dib'al, al-Babliyah, Hannawiyah, and 'Aytanit.

The Lebanese Army will set up its main search posts at the main crossing points in Tyre region.

## Redeployment of Lebanese Army Continues in South

### 9th Brigade in Iqlim al-Tuffah Villages

*NC0912181391 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] The redeployment of army brigades in the south continued today. Our correspondent learned that the 9th Brigade deployed in the Iqlim al-Tuffah villages of Darb al-Sim, Maghdushah, Humin, 'Arab Salim, Jba', al-Luwayzah, and Jarju'. The 6th Brigade deployed in the following villages in Sidon area: Al-Hilaliyah, 'Abra, Majdalyun, al-Salihiyah, and Kafr Falus. The 3d Bridage deployed on the coastal line between Sayniq, al-Zahrani, and al- Nabatiyah.

The Lebanese Army command is expected to meet with UN Interim Force in Lebanon command this week to reach some agreement concerning Tayr Dibbah, where the inhabitants held a vigil for the 10th consecutive day to protest the decision to withdraw the Army from that village.

### Brigades in Jubayl, al-Batrun

*NC1012131091 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The Lebanese Army today completed the redeployment of brigades in various areas, notably in Jubayl and al-Batrun. They were prepared to deploy in these areas yesterday but were delayed by stormy weather. The 11th Brigade will deploy in the south while the 2nd and 3d Brigades will deploy in areas of al-Shuf, 'Alayh, and the Iqlim al-Kharrub coast.

### AL-SHIRA' Publisher 'Interrogated' on Article

*NC1012184091 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] The senior investigator in Beirut, Labib al-Zuwayn, has interrogated AL-SHIRA' magazine owner Hasan Sabra regarding the appellate public prosecution's case against the magazine, in which it is accused of attacking the president of the Republic. The journalists' doyen, Muhammad al-Ba'labakki, who accompanied Sabra to the Palace of Justice, affirmed the Lebanese media's respect for their legal limits within the framework of liberties stressed by the Lebanese Constitution. He clarified that the position of the presidency is one held in high esteem by the Lebanese press and all its employees.

## Al-Asad Reviews Involvement in Lebanon

*PM1112093491 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 7 Nov 91 p2*

[Unattributed report: "Al-Asad: Syria Willing To Help Lebanon; Negotiations Will Lead to Implementation of Resolution 425"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH—The visit of the large presidential, parliamentary, and governmental delegation which went to Damascus the day before yesterday to congratulate President al-Asad on his reelection and which was headed by President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Prime Minister 'Umar Karami, and Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, has been described by informed ministerial sources as "important," despite its routine protocol nature.

In addition to confirming the Lebanese-Syrian fixed principles, according to the same sources, the visit confirmed that the present [Lebanese] Government will continue in office and that efforts will be made "to remedy the government situation and unify ranks to meet internal and regional challenges."

The sources, who participated in the talks, said that the expanded session held by the Syrian and Lebanese sides at the People's Palace in Damascus covered all general topics and that during the talks President al-Asad spoke at length about the situation in Lebanon. The sources believe that the details were discussed by Presidents al-Asad and al-Hirawi at a private meeting in the same hall lasting a few minutes and another later at the al-Mazzah military airfield also lasting a few minutes, as the other members of the delegations waited in their cars.

During the meeting, and after a protocol speech by President al-Hirawi in which he congratulated al-Asad on the renewal of his mandate and underscored "the importance of fraternal relations and coordination between Lebanon and Syria," President al-Asad, in remarks lasting about two hours, gave a historical review of the Lebanese crisis since its outset in 1975. According to Lebanese ministerial sources, President al-Asad said, among other things, that "from the beginning of the crisis Syria tried to put out the fire without intervening directly, until some foreign parties began interfering. Although many tried to prevent us from intervening, we entered Lebanon to stop the bloodshed, despite the opposition of some of our allies. Some accused us of intervening in favor of the Christians against other parties. Even France criticized us at the time for intervening against the Palestinians and others." Al-Asad told the conferees what the French said to him about Syrian intervention in Lebanon at the time.

He then reviewed all stages of the war in Lebanon. He said: "All those who intervened in Lebanon have left, except us, because events have proved that our approach was correct." He referred to the Iraqi, Palestinian, Israeli, and other interference. He added: "They left because our plan and slogan for Lebanon were the correct ones. I was the first to raise the slogan of the unity of Lebanese territory and people, because we believed that there could be no victory for one group against another and no displacement of one group in favor of another."

He expressed the belief that "the war in Lebanon was not a sectarian war, even though some parties and groups joined it with sectarian inclinations." He spoke of "numerous other social factors which fed that war." He said that "the Muslims and Christains were feuding not over the religion of Muhammad or Christ nor because the Christians wanted to convert the Muslims to Christianity nor because the Muslims were trying to force the Christians to turn to Islam."

As usual, President al-Asad talked about the Syrian position on Arab unity. He said: "We are not ashamed of our slogans and have not abandoned them, especially not the Arab unity slogan, but we have our own concept of Arab unity not determined by higher stipulations or decisions or by invasion, as in the case of Iraq and Kuwait. We believe that unity will be achieved when the peoples are ready for it."

Reassuring the Lebanese delegation, al-Asad said: "We believe the same about Lebanon and Syria. When the Lebanese and Syrian peoples are ready, unity will be achieved. That could happen after 20 years or after 200 years."

He emphasized "the contradiction between Arabism and sectarianism." He pointed out that "some people's approach to unity is perhaps negative because they confuse it with Islam. Some Maronites in Lebanon opposed Syria and the Arabs because of that link. We in Syria have proved that Arabism is one thing and Islam is quite another. It has been proved to every Lebanese that we act on pan-Arab grounds, not sectarian grounds. Our intervention in and assistance to Lebanon took place on that basis. It was not for sectarian reasons, nor was it for the purpose of supporting one group against another. If incidents occurred in Turkey we would not have intervened simply on the ground that there were Muslims there. We intervene in Lebanon because it is a fraternal Arab country, not just a neighbor."

Talking about the Maronites, he said: "Although some of them opposed Syria because of certain circumstances, we believe that Arabism is the link between us. Some Maronites were pioneers of Arabism, and they are our people." President al-Asad praised former President Sulayman Franjiyah because "he was the first to become aware of the Israeli danger." He also praised late President Ilyas Sarkis, noting that "circumstances did not help him much," and he praised the late Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

He also said: "We in Syria reject sectarianism. We even treat the Jews as part of our people. Before 1970 (the year he assumed power in the Corrective Movement) there were restrictions on the Jews. We rejected these restrictions, despite the fact there were some Israeli agents among them. The agents did not become agents just because they were Jews. Some Muslims were also Israeli agents. So, despite all that, nobody treats them as enemies. Despite the special position of the Jews, whom Israel claims to represent wherever they are, we coexist with them in Syria. The best proof is what happened during the referendum a few days ago and the position they took then."

Moving onto the current situation in Lebanon, the Syrian president reaffirmed that "Damascus has consolidated Lebanon's unity and sovereignty and will continue to make sacrifices for that cause as it did in the past." He said that, in his view, "the situation has improved, and accord has been established and enhanced in Lebanon, despite the doubts." He referred to the "government's success in making decisions that enhance security and stability and help the continuation of the reconciliation process and the rebuilding of the state." He said he was happy to receive the presidential, parliamentary, and governmental delegation in Damascus, emphasizing that "Syria preferred, and will continue, to deal with the Lebanese Government and state, not with certain factions, sects, or parties within it, regardless of the claims that some parties are closer to it than others."

He also said that the "emergence of a Lebanese authority and the establishment of security are things which Syria supports. On independence day I contacted President al-Hirawi and congratulated him on the military parade that was staged, because it demonstrated that the state institutions were back on their feet."

Al-Asad broached the government situation in Lebanon by talking about the regime in Syria. He said: "We have gradually crystallized the rule and method of government in Syria. We began in 1963 with a one-party system. In 1970 the central National Front emerged, and we initiated a dialogue with all groups and parties. The Front now stands at the summit of Syrian decisionmaking. Matters will not remain the same here. They will develop further for the better toward more consultation and dialogue. We did not have people's organizations and institutions to help with the decisionmaking. Now we do have such institutions, and we are developing them.

Despite the nature of our system, in recent years we have not made any decision without first discussing it with the organizations and institutions. A strong government must be based on dialogue and debate. The head of government should be exeperienced in order to be able to implement and follow up the implementation of the decisions made."

He added: "We maintain that the form of government should not be static. It develops all the time. Sometimes I may have one opinion, while others have a different opinion." He repeated that "Syria is always ready to help Lebanon." He pointed out that "in certain things we do not take your place but act as auxiliary elements. Agreement among you cannot be reached by anyone but you."

President al-Asad, the ministerial sources said, also discussed the peace conference and Lebanon's place in it. Speaking about Israeli intransigence, he said: "Even if nothing is achieved at the conference, one new factor has already emerged, namely, that Israel's allies are beginning to doubt the credibility of Israel, which used to claim that we wanted to throw the Jews into the sea and that we did not want peace."

Referring to Lebanon's problems at the conference, he said that they were less than the problems of other states, because "you have a clear undisputed resolution. This is Resolution 425, but there is disagreement on the interpretation of Resolutions 242 and 338." He said that, in his view, "the negotiations must lead to the implementation of Resolution 425 and an Israeli withdrawal from the South."

## Council of Ministers Meets, Reviews Peace Talks

*JN1012175791 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held a meeting today at 1100 presided over by Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi. [passage omitted]

At the meeting a political review was made during which Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' spoke about developments related to the negotiations of the second stage, which are going on within the framework of the peace process and the constant Israeli attempts to obstruct and abort it.

He also spoke about the results of a number of Arab, Islamic, and international contacts and meetings. [passage omitted]

## Commentaries, Editorials Criticize Israeli Policy

### 'Premeditated' Plans Against Peace Seen

*JN1112124191 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Damascus, 11 Dec (SANA)—In today's editorial, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says that the formal and procedural issues which the Israeli delegation has been raising since its arrival in Washington, its insistence on discussing them first and before anything else with the Arab delegations and within just a few days, together with its evasion, or rather refusal to discuss the substantive issues related to the dimensions of the Arab-Israeli struggle and the facts of the Palestine question, demonstrate Israel's premeditated intentions against the peace conference.

The paper notes that sending the Israeli delegation to Washington coincided with a wave of statements, attributed to senior Israeli officials, led by Prime Minister

Yitzhaq Shamir, publicly rejecting the principles of a just and comprehensive peace on which the peace conference was based in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: It is natural for the Arab delegations participating in the second phase of the peace conference to confront Israeli intransigence as well as the maneuvers of the Tel Aviv leaders, refute their absurd contents, and expose the falsehood of Israel's claims before the world, which is demanding an end to the procrastination and evasion of the Israeli leaders. The world is also demanding an Israeli commitment to discuss substantive and essential issues in response to the resolutions and desire of the international community, topped by the United States, which has continuously been declaring its opposition to the settlements in the occupied Arab territories and reiterating its support for the Israeli withdrawal from them and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights.

### Preoccupation With 'Ridiculous Procedural Issues'

*JN1112103491 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1244 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: While the Arab delegations in Washington are preparing to begin the second stage of talks in the Middle East peace process, our people in the occupied homeland celebrate four years of their brave intifadah. They are confronting the enemy forces that are spread over the West Bank and Gaza, and waging fierce confrontations with them. Thus, they once again stress their free will and determination to evict the invaders from their land, and build their independent future.

It is very clear that the Israeli Government is in a state of disarray and confusion, and that it dispatched its delegation to the U.S. capital after its policy of procrastination and prevarication faced comprehensive world condemnation. Shamir and his aides raised additional ridiculous procedural issues. Whoever really wants peace, and looks forward to a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East does not link his participation in the negotiations with marginal issues, such as the shape of the negotiations table or the hall, or the need to have the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in one hall or in two separate halls. Whoever really wants peace does not provoke the Arab side by establishing more settlements in the Arabs' occupied land, or allow Jewish settlers to infringe on the rights of the Arab citizens in the Silwan quarter of Jerusalem and force them out of their homes. Whoever wants peace does not openly say, as the enemy's deputy war minister did, that the Golan issue is not negotiable, and that its fate is known; namely, that it will remain an inseparable part of Israel in accordance with the Zionist Knesset decision.

No doubt, the Arab delegations to the Washington negotiations will not allow the enemy to waste time and efforts, and dispel hopes on procedural issues. They will raise substantial issues represented by the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. International and U.S. efforts were based on these two resolutions, and the Madrid conference was held on their basis. The objective of the Washington talks is to crystallize the aspired for just settlement on all fronts. This can only be achieved through the full implementation of these resolutions, where Israel would withdraw its forces from the occupied territories and allow the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, particularly their right to self-determination.

The Arabism of the occupied territories—the Golan, Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza, and southern Lebanon—is not subject to bargaining. We are not in any way concerned with the Knesset decisions. The Knesset decisions neither cancel UN resolutions, international principles and charters, nor do they cancel history and geography. We do not believe that any side in the world pays attention to such totally aggressive decisions. The entire world—beginning with the UN Security Council and including the superpowers, and the big regional organizations and unions—have condemned this Zionist hostility, and considered all of Israel's measures on the future of the occupied territories, particularly on the Golan and Jerusalem, as null and void with no legal value.

The Arabs accepted to negotiate after the United States, along with the Soviet Union, Europe, and the United States committed themselves to establishing just peace based on Security Council resolutions and the principle of land for peace. Moreover, the United States committed itself to continue to take part in the peace process, and to intervene should the need arise, to maintain its momentum. While the Arabs stressed their commitment to peace under the cosponsorsship of the United States and the Soviet Union, Israel persistently seeks to separate the U.S. side from the negotiations; and consequently sever the U.S. linkage with the peace process, and lead it to retreat from the commitments and assurances made to the Arabs. However, Israel's dreams are one thing, and reality is something else. All indications and official statements emphasize that the United States adheres to its role, and declares its determination to push the peace process forward until the end. The United States has condemned Israeli settlement in the occupied territories and does not at all embrace the expansionist ambitions of Shamir's government.

No doubt, the coming days will once again reveal to the world the falsehood of Israel's peaceful claims, and expose its expansionist and aggressive nature. International resolutions are clear, and no two people in the world disagree on their interpretation. These resolutions reject the acquisition of land by force and wars, and call on Israel to withdraw. The enemy's government will no longer be able to maneuver. The Arabs are ready to extend peace in exchange for their occupied land, and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights. Any Israeli rejection of these just demands will eventually lead to an international trial of Israel, or rather an international confrontation with it. Israel will certainly be the loser.

### Israelis Seen Skirting 'Substance' of Talks

*JN1012091991 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel is Escaping From Substance into Formalities," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: The repeated enemy statements on the second phase of the peace conference talks confirm beyond any shadow of doubt that the enemy has neither abandoned its antipeace positions nor does it intend to do so. At a time when Arab delegations are displaying seriousness toward the start of talks directly linked to the root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which was the basis of the Madrid conference in the first place, the enemy has continued to raise marginal and formal issues as part of its constant attempts to circumvent the world consensus in support of peace endeavors which aim to achieve justice in the Middle East region.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Israeli attempts to evade a discussion of the substance of the conflict in the talks scheduled to start in Washington today are a defiance not only of the world public opinion, but also of the United Nations and its resolutions, which epitomize the world consensus on the need to achieve peace in the Middle East region. This consensus was seen before, during, and after the convocation of the Madrid conference to confirm that Israel is isolated, and that it will continue to be cornered as long as it maintains its enmity toward the peace process. This requires the world community to apply pressure on Israel to make it succumb to international legitimacy, which provides for the attainment of a just peace.

Under the headline "Israeli Maneuvers, What Next," the newspaper TISHRIN says: It is hard for observers to enumerate the Israeli provocations which Zionist officials have chosen to conduct over the past five days with a view to torpedoing the entire peace process and jeopardizing its prospects. In addition to Israel's failure to show up in Washington on 4 December for the start of the second phase of the peace conference in response to a U.S. invitation in this regard, the Shamir government has sought to observe the date it fixed for attending the Washington talks. Even though the talks will start today, Israel has chosen to forestall the Washington talks by enunciating positions and carrying out practices that threaten to halt, suspend, and render the talks, even before they begin, void of any meaningful content or substance in total disregard of the immense endeavors that have been made to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

TISHRIN adds: The statements made by Israeli officials on the Washington talks show that new procedural problems will be raised as part of Israel's intentions to torpedo the peace process. The Shamir government still believes that it can get away with evading the requirements of peace, and with noncompliance with the international legitimacy resolutions as well.

TISHRIN goes on to say: In light of this, the Israelis insist on maneuvering, suspending the talks, and evading substantive issues. In the same vein, they focus on the procedural problems after raising, creating, and amplifying them to buy more time and impose their positions and policies, which demand that the talks venue move to the region. If such a thing were to happen, they would guarantee the attainment of what is substantive to them with respect to the peace process; namely, extricating an Arab recognition of Israel, while Israel would continue to hold on to the Arab territories. By so doing, Israel would uphold the principle of peace-for-peace, and eliminate the principle of territory for peace. Otherwise, how can one understand the Israeli deputy war minister's statement on the eve of the Washington talks that the Golan will remain an inseparable part of Israel, and Shamir's statement that there can be no sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza Strip other than Israeli sovereignty? Moreover, how can one understand the [words indistinct] taken to sanction the Israeli settlers' residence in the Silwan neighborhood in Jerusalem, and the building of more new settlements in Nabulus and other Palestinian cities? All this confirms that Israel is undoubtedly determined to destroy the peace process, and to deny even the United States the chance to launch, activate, and energize it on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338.

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN says: However, the Arabs who have responded favorably, sincerely, and seriously to peace endeavors will never allow themselves to be dragged by Israeli maneuvers. Likewise, they will not be deceived by the acts of deception shamelessly perpetrated by the Shamir government. Out of concern for peace, the Arabs will continue to reiterate that there can be no permanent and lasting peace as long as the occupation is maintained, and that a just and comprehensive peace is the only viable option regardless of the current circumstances and challenges.

## Afghanistan

### Yunes Khales Alleges Iranian 'Unholy Designs'

*BK0812092791 Lahore THE NATION (Islamabad Supplement) in English 3 Dec 91 p 3*

[Text] Peshawar—Mawlawi Mohammad Yunes Khales, chief of his own faction of Hezb-e Eslami, has accused the Iranian authorities of wanting bases for itself in central Afghanistan and of having unholy designs against Afghanistan.

In an interview with the Pashtun service of the BBC, which was monitored by AL-BUNYAN NEWS SERVICE (ANS), the Afghan leader said: "Never in the history have the Iranian governments acted according to the spirit and demands of Islam. All their actions were politically and nationally motivated. The Iranians are just wanting to create a permanent political base for themselves in the Hazarehjat region of Afghanistan." He described the recent unauthorised Iranian [food] airdropping operation, as "an interference in our internal affairs." He also indirectly criticised those Afghan leaders who condoned the Iranian action.

Meanwhile, Eng. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Chief of Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan, has ruled out his participation in any shura [consultative council] which is formed on the basis of equal representation to all the Mojahedin groups.

In a statement carried by biweekly, SHAHADAT on Thursday, Mr Hekmatyar also urged the Mojahedin leaders to give viable guarantee of safety and security to those officials and functionaries of Kabul regime, who might choose to desert Dr Najib and demonstrate honesty in backing the Islamic administration of the Mojahedin.

Mr Hekmatyar also declared his intention, not to allow the participation of anti-Islamic groups in the future Mojahedin administration.

## India

### PRC Premier Li Peng Begins Visit 11 Dec

*BK1112104491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1030 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] The Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, arrived in New Delhi a short while ago. He was given a ceremonial reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house]. The contingents of the Army, Navy, and Air Force represented a guard of honor, while the band played the national anthem of both the countries.

The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao; his cabinet colleagues, and diplomats of the Chinese Embassy received Mr. Li Peng.

Speaking to newsmen, Mr. Li Peng said that he will have talks with the Indian leaders which he felt will promote friendship.

### Calls for Improved Relations

*BK1112124691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Excerpts] The Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, accompanied by Madam Zhu Lin, arrived to a warm welcome in New Delhi today. [passage omitted]

In a statement issued soon after his arrival, the Chinese prime minister said that his visit will help increase mutual understanding and promote an enduring and steady development of Sino-Indian relations. He hoped that good-neighborly and friendly relations between the two countries will further develop on the basis of five principles of coexistence.

He said the friendly relationship between the two countries is not only in conformity with the common aspirations and interests of the two people but also conducive to peace and stability in Asia and the world at large. He said his visit provides him an opportunity to convey the cordial greetings and best wishes of the Chinese people to the great people of India.

### Police Gas Tibetan Protesters

*BK1112072291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] Majnu-ka-Tilla Camp, India, Dec 11 (AFP)—Indian police teargassed and beat up scores of Tibetan protestors here Wednesday, hours before the scheduled arrival of Chinese Premier Li Peng for a six-day visit.

Scores of demonstrators protesting the visit were dragged into waiting police trucks after they burned an effigy of Li and shouted anti-Chinese slogans on a highway outside this refugee camp on the outskirts of Delhi.

When police started dragging away the Tibetans, who included women and a few children, some turned violent and started hurling rocks at the police who retaliated with tear gas, witnesses said.

Tear gas was also lobbed into the ramshackle huts that make up the camp.

A spokesman for the demonstrators said later they had hoped to march into central Delhi where are red-carpet welcome was being prepared for Li at the presidential palace.

But the police cordon around the camp prevented the march, he said.

Security for the visit, the first by a Chinese leader since a 1962 Sino-Indian border war, has been tight. Police said Tuesday that more than 200 people including 14 leading Tibetan activists had been taken into "preventive detention."

Some 100,000 Tibetan refugees followed their spiritual leader the Dalai Lama over the Himalayas into India after an anti-Chinese uprising in March 1959.

The refugees have declared the duration of Li's visit a "black week" and urged India not to further normalise relations, frozen for 14 years after the brief but bitter 1962 war at the expense of Tibet.

India recognises Tibet as an autonomous region of China, but says it will continue to host the Dalai Lama and the refugees for humanitarian reasons.

### Parliamentary Resolution Welcomes Visit

*BK1112085691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] The Rajya Sabha today welcomed the Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, who is arriving in New Delhi this afternoon on a six-day visit to India. In a resolution, the house expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries will further improve. The matter was raised by Dr. Nagen Saikia of the AGP [Asom Gana Parishad], who was supported by some other members.

### Commentator on 'Forward-Looking' Visit

*BK0712124591 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 7 Dec 91*

[HINDUSTAN TIMES special correspondent Mahendra Ved commentary: "Chinese Prime Minister's Visit to India"]

[Text] The passwords during the forthcoming visit of Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, to India, when he will discuss a wide range of issues with Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, may well be goodwill and friendship. The two expressions underscore the deep desire on the part of both the nations—traditional neighbors and friends for centuries who turned out enemies over a territorial dispute three decades ago—to cement the relationship on stronger foundations. The visit is a landmark in two of the world's most populous nations—both innovators of the ancient civilizations—[who] would like to sort out differences and face a fast-changing world not as enemies but as friends.

Mr. Li will be in India from December 11th to 16th on an official goodwill visit. It will be the first by a Chinese premier since Zhou Enlai was in Delhi in April 1960. It returns the December 1988 visit of the then prime minister, the late Rajiv Gandhi. Significantly, there is none of the acrimonious debates that preceded Mr. Gandhi's decision to visit Beijing or even earlier when Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, external affairs minister in Janata Party government, went to China in 1978. India's political and academic leadership recognizes that much water has flown down the Yamuna and Hoang Ho since the two countries engaged in an armed conflict in 1962.

The border dispute remains, but it can be sorted out through talks. It is better to harp back to the distant past when that was glorious rather than the recent one if the future of the largest chunk of humanity and of Asia is to be secured. On the Chinese side, there has been little buildup to the visit. Some have certain positive hints. Top Chinese Communist leaders have conveyed to leaders of the CPI [Communist Party of India] and the CPI-M [Marxist], the fraternal parties in India, that they would like to go back to the days of Hindi-Chini bhai bhai [Hindi phrase meaning Indians and Chinese are brothers].

The border dispute can be sorted out through mutual give and take, recognizing the national aspirations of the people of each country. The accent is on trade and cultural ties. Similar sentiments were expressed when a Congress-I delegation led by Mr. V.N. Gadgil visited China recently. The accent on cultural ties was indicated by a seminar on the cave art of India and China organized by the Indira Gandhi National Center for Arts in New Delhi last month. Students of Sino-Indian relations have noted that China is assiduously working to normalize relations with all its neighbors. The Chinese Communist leadership has retained the political controls even as it has opted for a degree of economic liberalization and Western technology. It has remained steadfast on its goals while the neighboring Soviet Union has undergone sweeping changes and remains in turmoil.

The recent visits of the British prime minister, Mr. John Major, and the U.S. secretary of state, Mr. James Baker, to China have indicated that the latter is prepared to listen to all. But is not about to be swept away by the changing scenario all around. While the Communist Party of China has had fraternal relations with the Indian left parties, it has also maintained ties with the Congress-I, and on a different level, the government-to-government relations irrespective of the party in power in India. This makes the relationship nonideological.

The basic common bond is the principles of pancasila, conceived by Jawaharlal Nehru and enunciated at Bandung during the era of Hindi Chini bhai bhai. Both India and China found it convenient to harp back to pancasila, the basic tenet being noninterference in each other's affairs, once they decided in 1976 to forget the recent past and build the relationship anew. That was the time the late Mrs. Indira Gandhi took the initiative and began the process of normalization that is now under way. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's visit saw a further breakthrough when a joint working group was set up to work out a solution to the border dispute. This group has met several times to work out modalities to tackle a problem that is extremely complex. It is to meet again early next year and Mr. Li's visit may well provide a political thrust to the exercise by officials and experts. It must be stressed that even with best of intentions the solution cannot be instant.

Mr. Li will be accompanied by Mr. Li Lanqing, the minister for foreign economic relations and trade and a senior official of the aerospace industry. Augmenting the bilateral trade will be very much on the agenda. The border trade is expected to resume like in the past. A route is to be decided in Uttar Pradesh where goods can be transacted. The facilities given to Indian pilgrims visiting Manas Sarovar in Tibet may be increased. Both India and China have for some time felt the need to increase relations at the consular level. Consulates in Calcutta and Shanghai are proposed. This may get finalized during the visit. Both countries have done well in the field of space. A protocol for cooperation in this field is also expected. By all means, the Sino-Indian interaction is going to be a forward-looking one, Indian External Affairs Ministry officials assert.

### Commentary Calls for Border Accord

*BK1112111291 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Dr. C.K. Bannerjee commentary: "Li Peng's Six-Day Visit to New Delhi Begins"]

[Text] The Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, arrived here on a six-day state visit to India. The Chinese prime minister visits India after a gap of 31 years. The duration of Mr. Li's stay in New Delhi points to an agenda which could be both ambitious and wide ranging. The two sides have already held discussions at experts level, as an advanced team of officials visited Delhi last month. Another team arrived here on Sunday to follow up the discussions held last month and to give shapes to the consensus reached. The two sides are likely to sign a memorandum of understanding on setting up of consulates in Bombay and Shanghai and two agreements: one on restoration of border trade that was discontinued after the 1962 war between the two countries, and the other on cooperation in the field of outer space. There will also be a trade protocol for 1992-93 stipulating the level of trade between the two countries.

The two prime ministers are also expected to discuss the principles involved in resolving the boundary question. Following Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Beijing in December 1988 and discussion on boundary issue, a foreign secretary-level joint working group was set up which has already held three meetings.

Mr. Li is accompanied by his wife and a powerful delegation of his foreign minister, Mr. Qian Qichen; Mr. Li Lanqing, the minister for foreign economic relations and trade; vice foreign minister, vice minister for aeronautics and astronautics industry, among others. The Indian team led by the prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, includes the minister for external affairs, Mr. Madhav Singh Solanki; the minister of state for commerce, Mr. P. Chidambaram, besides other officials.

One cannot say that Mr. Li Peng's visit would solve the boundary problem, but the visit can certainly help further develop trustworthy relationship, the seeds of which were sown in 1988 by late Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Beijing. The two countries must resolve to settle the boundary question through peaceful and friendly consultations. There already exists an understanding that pending a settlement, neither side will disturb peace and tranquillity along the line of actual control. There is a need for giving a more concrete shape to the understanding by agreeing to rule out the use of force along the entire Sino-Indian border. Second understanding may help the two countries reduce military presence along the border and by implications bring down military spending and save money for development.

The Washington concept of a new world order, collapse of the Soviet Union, and economic situation of both the countries demand cooperation between developing countries and certainly between two neighbors like India and China.

The discussions with the visiting delegations is expected to reverse the declining trend in Sino-Indian economic relations, particularly in trade, and to open up new areas of cooperation in the fields of science and technology and space. The signing of a memorandum of understanding on restoration of border trade may increase the two-way trade which has come down to 883 million rupees in 1990-91 from 1,916 million rupees in 1988-89. Since the signing of the trade agreements in 1984, Indian exports to China enjoy minimum tariff duties. Trade between the two countries is transacted in freely convertible currencies. The trade protocol signed in Beijing in February this year is due for renewal in two months' time. The lack of direct banking rules, poor transportation network between the two countries, and patchy communication facilities came in the way to develop trade. Bilateral trade can be given a boost through barter or countertrade deals.

In the field of space, India has made considerable advance, but it is still behind China which has successfully deployed 26 man-made earth satellites and launched 87 satellites. Even countries like the USA, France, Britain, and Canada are desirous of using Chinese carrier rockets to launch satellites into geostationary orbit. China, which is cooperating with 28 countries on a variety of space technologies, may be willing to cooperate with India.

China has given positive indications that it has stopped interfering in internal matters of India. Despite its friendship with Pakistan, it prefers to the Simla agreement and refuses to raise the Pakistan demand of self-determination in Kashmir. In exchange, India has seen the incident at Tiananmen Square as an internal matter of China even when the entire world had criticized it.

Mr. Li Peng's visit can help start an era of political cooperation and bilateral economic exchanges. If China and India realize the new challenges and cooperate, they can provide lasting peace in South Asia.

### U.S. Official's Visit Seen As Unsuccessful

*BK1012124991 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 26 Nov 91 p 11*

[Editorial: "The Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] Contrary to the impression the Reginald Bartholomew visit may have created, the US Under Secretary of State for International Security does not seem to have succeeded in his mission to freeze nuclear ambitions in South Asia. Perhaps too much had been read into the significance of his trips to Islamabad and New Delhi. That was not entirely without a basis, though. India will continue to depend on friendly relations with the US and a steady flow of IMF loans and offshore investment and technology. Sustained persuasion, even gentle pressure on the nuclear non-proliferation question can be widely perceived as a possible quid pro quo. This is mainly because of Washington's concern about further proliferation of nuclear weapons in different parts of the world, including South Asia. The open mind with which India approached the issues broached by Mr Bartholomew and the politeness which marks Indo-US contacts these days do not suggest a reversal of India's nuclear policy. Mr Bartholomew is a known hard bargainer and it is not surprising he pressed the need to freeze the present level of nuclear development in the subcontinent. It is significant that Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao had reiterated at Harare recently that India did not propose to reverse its nuclear policy.

It is thus fair to assume that Mr Bartholomew's main objective in New Delhi was not to thrust the NPT [nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] down India's gullet, but to consider together with India whether the South Asian nuclear situation had reached a point where the NPT might prove inadequate in meeting American goals. In that context, it may well have been analysed whether the Pakistani proposal for a discussion with India involving also the US, the Soviet Union and China to establish a nuclear-free zone in South Asia is worth pursuing. Conceivably, India had the benefit of learning from the US official how China resolves the contradiction of its support for a nuclear-free South Asia and its close nuclear liaison with Pakistan. The Sino-Pak axis—or perhaps the Iraqi experience—may well be an additional reason why the US is keen to de-nuclearise South Asia. The Pakistani proposal therefore may have appealed to Washington as a means to bring India round on the non- proliferation question without overruling New Delhi's principled opposition to the NPT as a discriminatory instrument. But India will need a convincing argument which proves that a regional arrangement can be non-discriminatory. If that is so, why should other nuclear threshold countries like Israel, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil and North Korea be left out of regional arrangements?

### Nepal's Koirala on Regional Nuclear-Free Zone

*BK0912035691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] The Nepalese prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, says that South Asia should not be singled out for making it a nuclear-free zone. He was talking to newspersons at Varanasi yesterday. Mr. Koirala said the issue of a nuclear-free zone should be seen in totality and in the world context.

On the forthcoming visit of the Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, to India, Mr. Koirala said it is a good development and hoped that Sino-Indian relations will be strengthened by the visit.

Later, Mr. Koirala arrived in Patna. He was received by the state chief minister, Mr. Lalu Prasad, at the airport.

### Commentary Welcomes Visit's Outcome

*BK0912105891 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[UNITED NEWS OF INDIA correspondent Kuldip Singh Arora commentary: "A New Era of Indo-Nepal Friendship"]

[Text] A new chapter in Indo-Nepal relations has opened with the signing of two separate treaties on trade and transit and agreements on setting up of several multipurpose hydroelectric projects and cooperation in controlling unauthorized trade and in agriculture between the two countries. Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and his Nepalese counterpart Girija Prasad Koirala ended their two days of talks on an optimistic note and expressed hope that the relations between the two countries would be strengthened further in the interest of their people.

True to this spirit of friendship, the new bilateral treaty on trade is for a period of five years and takes effect immediately. It includes not only all the elements contained in the earlier trade treaty signed in June last year but also several new facilities and concessions for Nepalese trade. These pertain to reduction in duty- and quota-free entry of Nepalese manufactured goods to India from 65 percent to 55 percent, time-bound pro forma clearance for Nepalese exports with a four-month time limit, increasing the validity of such clearance from two years to five years, and acceptance of Nepalese labor content for duty- and quota-free entry subject to a negative list of products being prepared by the two governments.

The far-reaching transit treaty is for a period of seven years which incorporates simplified customs and other procedures to help Nepalese importers and exporters. An agreement has also been reached on controlling unauthorized trade with a validity for five years. Both sides are committed to work in close concert to control this growing scourge which is having an adverse impact on the Indian economy.

In revolutionizing bilateral cooperation in the sphere of water resources development, the two sides took a number of decisions in respect of the Karnali, Pancheshwar, and Sapt Kosi hydel [hydroelectric] or multipurpose projects, the medium-size Burhi Gandaki flood forecasting and flood protection schemes, and exchange of powers. As a goodwill gesture in keeping with the Nepalese request, India has agreed to provide 10 million units of power free initially every year. This country will also supply water from the Tanakpur barrage in accordance with the agreement reached during the discussions. India will take up immediate construction of the left flux bandh [embankment] of the Tanakpur barrage to prevent any inundation of Nepalese territory when the barrage is commissioned.

A memorandum of understanding [MOU] on cooperation in agriculture covers cooperation in agricultural science and technology, research, processing of cash crops, and agrobased industries. A joint working group will be constituted within the framework of the MOU to prepare concrete programs for such cooperation aimed at promoting development and generating employment in the rural areas of Nepal. It has been decided to set up an India-Nepal foundation in memory of the great Nepalese patriot, Mr. Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala. It will not only promote educational and cultural exchanges but also provide an added impetus to mutually beneficial cooperation in science and technology and other development-oriented fields. India will make a contribution of 20 million rupees to the trust fund for the foundation with the Nepalese Government making a matching contribution. India will take special interest in setting up Indo-Nepal joint ventures. For this purpose, access to the Indian market free of basic custom duties and quantitative restrictions will be provided automatically for products of joint ventures cleared by the two governments.

New Delhi has also agreed to pursue with renewed vigor and determination Indian-aided projects in Nepal. These include a Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala memorial medical college in Biratnagar, a telephone exchange at Rangeli, construction of the Biratnagar-Jhapha and Chatra-Birpur roads, and renovation of the Jainagar-Janakpur-Bisalpur railway line. This is in addition to broad-gauging the existing railway line up to Raxaul. India has agreed to send experts team from the AIIMS [All-Indian Institute of Medical Sciences] here to look into the details of setting up a B.P. Koirala ophthalmic institute in Kathmandu. In fact, talks between two prime ministers and the agreements signed have set in motion a new beginning in bilateral, economic, and political relations.

### Japan To Provide Loan, Grant Assistance for 1992

*BK0912131091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Japan will provide a loan and a grant assistance of 1,344 crore rupees to India during the next financial year. The loan will carry an annual interest rate of 2.6 percent and is repayable in 30 years. An agreement to this effect was signed by the Japanese ambassador, Mr. Shunji Kobayashi, and the secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Mr. Montague Singh Aluwalia, in New Delhi today.

### Reserve Bank Reduces Cash Margin for Imports

*BK0712162091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 7 Dec 91*

[Text] The Reserve Bank of India [RBI] has reduced the minimum cash margin for imports from 150 percent to 50 percent with immediate effect. This has been done to spur exports and increase the foreign exchange reserves. The RBI release in Bombay said the reduction is for imports other than capital goods under the open general license. The requirement of centralized clearance for the bank for the import of goods other than capital goods has also been waived.

## Iran

### UN Declaration of Iraq as War 'Aggressor' Hailed

*NC1112074691 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has said that the UN declaration identifying Iraq as the aggressor and responsible party for the imposed war is a major victory for the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to our special correspondent in Senegal, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Our combatants are now witnessing the results of their sacrifices after a lapse of so many years.

The president made these comments in an address to the staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's embassy in Dakar, saying: Following years of cruel judgments regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran, this UN action is an indication that the world has realized the lawful stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the imposed war. The dissemination of the UN secretary general's report has lead to immense worldwide feedback. According to our London correspondent, the UN secretary general's direct reference to the Iraqi Government as the aggressor and responsible party for the destruction resulting from the war, the violation of international norms and regulations, and the disregard of the UN Charter and other international conventions has elicited the serious attention of diplomatic circles in the United Nations and the press circles of Europe.

According to this report, one of the points in the UN secretary general's report which has attracted attention is the reference to Iraq's use of chemical weapons against Iranian civilians. The UN secretary general has termed this action by the Iraqi Government a serious violation of human rights.

### Declaration Deemed 'Political Victory'

*LD1112094391 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT 11 Dec 91*

[Text] United Nations, Dec. 10, IRNA—Iran's representative at the United Nations Kamal Kharrazi here today said the U.N. declaration of Iraq as the aggressor of the imposed war was the result of the eight-year long holy defence of the Iranian nation. "Today's report by the United Nations secretary general was a new political victory for the Iranian nation," he told IRNA. He said the sixth paragraph of the U.N. Resolution 598 assigned the secretary general to decide the party responsible for the war and introduce it to the Security Council. And he (the secretary general) fulfilled his promise three years after the establishment of the ceasefire today, he said.

Describing the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait as "a ground for proving the righteousness of the Iranian nation," he said although it was late, the United Nations finally fulfilled its duty, since it would be inappropriate for the U.N. to take a completely dual stance regarding a single aggressor. "As the secretary general said in his report, if the Resolution 598 had been implemented on time there would have been no second aggression in the region," he said.

Kharrazi said the secretary general pointed to the chemical bombardment of the western Iranian city of Sardasht, which he said in fact reveals the righteousness of the Iranian nation. "A nation which taught a lesson to the world that it will not tolerate any kind of aggression, and will not give up its independence at any cost," he said.

### Khorasani Calls for 'Aggressive Diplomacy'

*LD1012163291 Tehran IRNA in English 1739 GMT 9 Dec 91*

[Text] Robat Karim (Tehran Prov.) Dec. 9, IRNA—The chief of the Majles foreign policy commission, Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani, today called for "aggressive diplomacy" in the international arena. "In case we pursue aggressive diplomacy with minute international planning, resumption of diplomatic relations with whom we do not have at present, would not cause us any problems", he said.

However, the former Iranian ambassador to the United Nations ruled out ties with the United States of America and the al-Quds-occupying regime. "But with other nations, we should not have any hesitations. We are in a good and strong position," he said.

Asked about his earlier statement calling for resumption of ties with Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and South Africa, he said "we have no major problem with Morocco. Tunisia, has recently sent its ambassador to Tehran. As for Egypt, it is a necessity because of the longstanding cultural closeness between the two countries. Some Egyptian universities even teach the Persian language." On South Africa, he said the Frontline African states and the African National Congress have lifted the blockade on culture and other issues, and the sanctions only apply to arms and borrowings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Raja'i Khorasani criticized the discriminatory measured of the West towards newly independent Soviet republics as "wrong". He said "although we honour our ties with the Soviet Union, we should not close the door to the recognition of these republics especially the Muslim populated ones."

### Va'ezi Supports Ties With Azerbaijan

*LD1012200491 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 10, IRNA—Iran considers as acceptable any path chosen by the people of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezi said here today. His remark was in reply to the request of the visiting vice speaker of the parliament of the Azerbaijan Republic Ziad Samadzadeh for recognition of the republic's independence. Va'ezi said Iran was ready for expansion of mutual relations and wants to help Azerbaijan tackle its economic problems. "We will do our best to help Azerbaijan reach a market economy," he added. Samadzadeh also called for promotion of bilateral ties "as a mean for further consolidation of our historical links with Muslims." Earlier today, the Majles rejected the double urgency of a bill for recognition of independence of the Soviet Azerbaijan Republic, and said it should be moved in due order along with other bills.

### Majles To Delay Considering Ties

*NC1012193991 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 10 Dec 91*

[Text] Tehran, Dec 10 (AFP) - Iran's parliament on Tuesday voted against giving top priority to a bill tabled by hardliners proposing recognition of the independence of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, parliamentary sources said.

Instead, the proposal will be put forward as a non-urgent bill and dealt with in due parliamentary order.

If a bill is given an urgent rating, it is voted on quickly in the presence of 12 members of the Council of Guardians, which is charged with supervising the proper implementation of the country's laws and Constitution.

The proposal had been advocated by leading hardliner and former interior minister, 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

Another hardliner, Tehran MP [member of parliament] Mohammad Ibrahim Asghar-Zadeh, said a plot was being hatched in the Soviet Union "aimed at creating problems for the Muslim republics to subdue them, that's why this bill was introduced." He did not elaborate.

Iran has not recognized the independence of the Soviet Union's southern Muslim republics, including Azerbaijan, which has a predominantly Turkic Shiite population.

On Monday, First Vice President Hasan Habibi said Iran was awaiting the final political shape of the Soviet Union to emerge before establishing relations with the various republics.

At his weekly news conference, Habibi said Iran was following current developments in the Muslim Soviet republics "on the basis of the aspirations and demands of their people."

In a related development, Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ezi-Jaza'i said Tuesday his country respected the will and choice of the Azeri people, the official IRNA news agency quoted him as saying.

His remarks were in reply to Azerbaijan's deputy parliamentary speaker, Ziad Samadzadeh, who asked during a visit here that the Islamic Republic recognize Azerbaijan's independence.

Va'ezi also expressed his willingness to help Azerbaijan tackle its economic problems, saying: "We will do our best to help Azerbaijan attain a market economy."

### Government Denies U.S. Role in Hostage Releases

LD1012230691 [Editorial Report] Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian at 0400 GMT on 6 December in its "Review of Foreign Radios" program broadcasts a 22-minute review of the foreign media treatment of the release of Western hostages in Beirut. The program contains snippets of reports and comments by foreign radios stations interspersed with comments by the program presenter.

Concerning the credit for the release of the hostages, she says: "Politically speaking, the success of and the positive progress made in the hostage-taking case has nothing to do with Western governments. For, as you know, it was accomplished through the initiative of the United Nations and the efforts of its secretary general. The cooperation of Iran and a number of other countries with the secretary general also played a substantial part in its final solution. Therefore, the U.S. Government, which for many years kept the people of the United States and the West busy with its irrelevant and false propaganda, cannot now capitalize on the release of the Western hostages in terms of propaganda. Of course, at the same time that the last U.S. hostage was released, in order to take propaganda advantage of the situation Bush released the White House statement in his own name; but public opinion will not attribute any share or role to the Bush administration in the matter."

The presenter goes on to reiterate the Iranian authorities' oft-repeated rejection of any Iranian involvement in hostage-taking and emphasizes Iran's strict humanitarian role in the case.

With a final reminder that there are still Eastern hostages in captivity, she says: "It is expected of the secretary general and the UN mediation team that they will secure the release of all the Palestinian and Lebanese hostages, and by condemning hostage-taking prevent the repeat of kidnappings and crimes by the Israelis, and ascertain the fate of the Iranian hostages."

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Presents Budget Bill to Majles

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[Text] Tehran, Dec. 7, IRNA—Reconstruction of the country, restructure of the economy, and production increase have been the main axes of the government's policies and functions over the past three years, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the Majles here today.

Presenting the budget bill for the fiscal year 1371 (to begin March 21, 1992), the president said the system of prices including commodities, services and manpower which had been disturbed as a result of the imposed war (1980-88), considerably stabilized, thus matching the economic realities of the country.

Government's efforts to set guaranteed prices for basic agricultural products, and securing the incomes of the producers bore fruit, he said. This also helped reduce the trend of the migrations to the cities, he added.

On the rials 1,200 billion in subsidies predicted in the budget bill, he said the amount has significantly increased compared to the previous budgets in order to help keeping prices of the basic commodities at a desirable level.

Citing an example, the president said, each kilo of flour costs the government 210 rials, while the same flour is given to the bakeries at 12 rials per kilo.

Elsewhere on the heavy industries products, he said production of heavy duty vehicles and machinery rose by as much as 2.5 to 19 times this year as compared with the amount in the preceding year.

"The declining trend of the investments in the infrastructural sector stopped for the first time in 1369 (1990-91), and began a significant upward trend."

He said the ratio of the government credit investments to the total credits of the general budget rose from 19.4 percent in 1368 [1989-90] to 29 percent in the following year.

The tax revenues after a stagnation of three years from 1367 to 1369 [1988-89 to 1990-91] increased by 71.8 percent this year, said the president.

Referring to the reduction of the current credits of the government from 80.6 percent in 1367 to 69 percent in 1369, the president said the quota of the development credits however, rose from 19.4 percent in 1367 to 31 percent in 1369.

On the interest rate of the banking system, he said the rate had remained the same until 1363 [1984-85], however it rose between 4 to 12 percent from 1369.

The share of the banking system's facilities to the private sector increased from 39.8 percent in 1367 to 49 percent in 1369, however, the share of the government sectors declined from 60.2 percent to 50.3 percent during the period.

As for the volume of the share dealings in the stock market, the president said the amount was rials 65 billion in 1369, up by as much as six folds compared to the preceding year. The volume of the shares exchanged in the stock market would be some rials 301 billion in the first nine months of the current year (ending 21 December).

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the desire for a balanced rate for the foreign currencies led to the establishemnt of three official, competitive and floating rates, of which the official and competitive rates go to the imports of the necessary commodities and services and the floating rate is the basis of the export and import of unnecessary commodities.

In a bid to encourage non-oil exports, efforts have also been made including establishment of a fund to support non-oil exports, preliminary measures to set up an export promotion bank, and using rial like other foreign moneys for the settlement of debts by the banks.

The value of non-oil exports after a 16.2 percent increase in 1369 rose by more than 100 percent during the first seven months of the current year (ended 21 October) as compared with the preceding year, thanks to the government's efforts, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

Turning to the international developments, he said these events which should be seriouly considered, would certainly have some impacts on the budget. One of the most obvious developments which is of special significance for our country is the prospect of the oil production and prices, he added.

It is clear that the U.S. with its military presence in the region, irrespective of its pretexts, seeks a major objective, and that is controlling the massive oil flow, and keeping the oil prices at a low level, he added.

Regretting that certain regional states were acting in full coordination with the U.S., and implementing the U.S. policies, the president advised them to realize that stability and progress of their countries depended more on the friendly and firm relations with other regional countries, as well as to the promotion of their internal economic and social systems.

Further on the oil prices issue the president said the expected continuation of the economic stagnation in the industrialized countries would affect oil demands next year.

The entry of Kuwait and probably Iraq in the oil market and the consequent oil production increase require cautious considerations regarding the oil revenues of the country in the next year's budget, he said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the economic balance in various countries particularly in the Third World and the neighboring countries and said this issue coupled with the unity of Europe and unipolarization of the industrialized countries under the U.S. domination inevitably reflects the need for a move towards strengthening the internal economic power of the country.

However, human experiences in the area of centralized economy has proved unsuccessful, and these expreriences clearly reveal that centralized economies have not been successful over the past decades.

The president said rials 850 billion has been predicted for creating a balance in the salaries of the government employees in the budget.

Government's borrowing from the banking system next year has been put at rials 623 billion, rials 347 billion less than in the budget of the current year. The ratio of the borrowing to the total budget, therefore declines from 11.2 percent in the current year to 6 percent next year, he said.

Brief indices of the budget bill for the next year as explained by the president are as follows:

The total budget for the fiscal year 1371 is rials 27,847.6 billion, up by 38.6 percent as compared with the current year.

A total of rials 11,268.9 billion has been earmarked for the general budget of the government, up by 21.5 percent compared with the current year.

The budget of government organizations, government affiliate profitable institutes and banks is rials 18,096 billion of which rials 16,029.8 billion goes to the government organizations, rials 241.9 billion goes to the profitable institutes, and rials 1,824.3 billion to the banks.

Revenues in the budget bill for the coming year is put at rials 9,524.6 billion, showing an increase of 38.4 percent, of which 35.8 percent comes from taxes, 52.9 percent from the oil and gas exports and 11.3 percent is miscellaneous revenues.

The rise in the tax revenues, an important source of the government incomes, is mainly due to the increased income and import taxes.

The current expenditures have been predicted in the budget at rials 6,987.2 billion with the social sector, including public education, vocational education, higher education, health and social security and public welfare, having the major share.

Development credits stand at rials 3,395.5 billion, up by 46.8 percent as compared to the current year.

In distribution of the development credits priorities have been given to public education, vocational education, higher education, health, agriculture, water resources, and road and transport sectors.

Rials 711 billion has been allocated to the provincial development budget, showing a rise of some 32.9 percent compared with the current year.

Emphasis has been laid on the deprived and underdeveloped areas in distribution of the provincial development budget to the extent that in addition to the development credits for reducing the regional imbalance in the deprived spots, the next year's budget predicts a special credit amounting to rials 158 billion to remove deprivation and to bridge the gap between these areas and other areas of the country.

The president also said reconstruction of the quake-stricken provinces of Gilan and Zanjan will be completed by the end of the next year (1371), and 500,000 war refugees will also return to their homeland with the reconstruction of the war-stricken areas.

The allocation of 300 government companies to the people has begun, and 33 percent of the total government shares in state and nationalized companied are expected to be given to their personnel in order to encourage them to produce more.

Expenses of the state companies, government-affiliate profitable institutes and banks have been predicted at rials 18,096 billion, that is 61.6 percent of the total budget of the country, and up by 50 percent as compared with the current year.

The president said 19 percent of the total budget has been allocated to the education sector, reflecting the importance government attaches to this sector. The number of students is some 15.7 million this year, 0.6 percent more than predicted.

The higher education budget has increased by some 39 percent as compared with the current year, due to the importance of higher education and research.

The health sector, he said, received some 4.6 percent of the total budget in 1356, however, 7.1 percent of the total budget has been earmarked for this sector next year.

The number of hospital beds will increase to some 86,900, of which 80 percent belongs to the government sector.

The number of people receiving supportive services is 4 million this year, which will rise to 4.2 million next year. The budget has also predicted rials 700 billion for the economically vulnerable classes.

On agricultural sector, he said the predicted development credits for this sector is some rials 239.4 billion, up by 9.4 percent compared with the similar figure this year.

The government will also grant facilities to the private sector to produce some 1,062 tons of meat, 392,000 tons of eggs, and 4.1 million tons of milk. Meat imports will be reduced by 20,000 tons next year, he added.

On the water supply for the cities, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said some 27 million cubic meters of additional drinking water will be supplied and transferred next year.

The president elsewhere said the aromatic project in Esfahan will become operational next year with a total annual capacity of 161,000 tons.

The giant Mubarakeh steel complex in Esfahan with an annual capacity of 2.4 million tons of various types of steel sheets will be completed, in addition to the second phase of the Ahvaz steel plant with an annual capacity of one million tons.

In 1371 Kavian rolling mill with an annual capacity of 800,000 tons will become operational, copper production will reach the annual 140,000 tons, and Zanjan lead factories will be put into operation.

With the completion of plans to equip the mines, new annual capacities will be added to the current mineral yeilds: gold 517 kilos concentrated lead 7,000 tons, manganese ore 35,000 tons, coal 400,000 tons and concentrated iron ore 2.7 million tons.

The president predicted that Golgohar iron mines will become operational in the sixth month of the next year (September 1992), seven months earlier than predicted.

On commerce he said a total of rials 1,000 billion in subsidies has been allocated to this sector in the budget in a bid to support the consumers.

The predicted development credits for this sector stand at rials 32.7 billion which will be spent on establishment of new granaries and warehouses for the basic commodities.

Part of this credit goes to the construction of the 100,000-ton granary in Kerman, completion of 100,000-ton granary in Hamedan, and operation of Zahedan granary. He said 210,000 tons will be added to the current capacity of the country's granaries.

As for the oil and gas sector, the production of crude oil will rise by 558,000 barrels per day in order to reach the target 4.5 million barrels by 1372, predicted in the first five year plan.

Part of the second phase of the giant Kangan gas plant with a capacity of 28 million cubic meters will become operational next year.

On the energy sector the capacity of the power generation plants will have an increase of 2,618 mega watt to a total 17,098 mega watt in 1371.

Construction operation on the new plants for generating 13,847 mega watt of electricity will continue next year, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

The amount of electricity to be generated by the Energy Ministry is to rise by 12.3 percent (compared to the current year), to 67.4 billion kilo watt next year, and 1,200 more villages will join the nationwide electricity network in 1371.

In the road and transport sector, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said some 11,990 kilometers of roads will be under construction in 1371, of which some 719 kilometers will be completed by the end of the next year.

Construction of some 1,900 kilometers of rural road will also be underway next year, of which some 300 kilometers will be completed by the end of the next year.

Some 21 million tons of cargo and 9 million passengers will be carried by rail next year and 400 kilometers of railways will be reconstructed and renovated in 1371.

The country's ports will be operational with full capacity next year, and the capacity of the country's merchant fleet will also increase by 100,000 tons, to transport 60 percent of imported items.

The president at the end of his speech termed the compilation of the budget for the next fiscal year within the framework of the goals and policies of the first five year plan "a great success for the government and the respected Majles."

## Pakistan

### Decree Declares Economic Reforms 'Irreversible'

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[Text] Islamabad, Dec 10 (AFP)—The Pakistani Government Tuesday declared its economic reforms irreversible, banning future state takeovers of denationalized enterprise or units.

An ordinance promulgated by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan here expressed the government's determination to create a liberal environment for savings and investments.

The government lifted restrictions on the flow of foreign exchange and offered incentives for new comers, reducing duties on import of machinery and a tax holiday of up to seven years for fresh industries.

The presidential decree, apparently in a move to counter threats by opposition leader Benazir Bhutto that her party would take over denationalized units once it got back into power, offered categorical "protection of transfer of ownership to private sector."

Since coming to power in November 1990, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government has embarked on a policy of a rapid industrialisation, cutting down on controls and regulations.

It has decided to sell over 100 state-run units, including nationalised banks and financial institutions.

It was the socialist government in the 1970s of Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, that had taken over major commercial banks and industrial projects. He was overthrown in a military coup in 1977 and put to death in 1979.

His daughter, who led a government between 1988 and August 1990, has charged that the denationalisation benefits Sharif's industrialist friends.

The decree, however, was clear on opposing state takeovers of denationalized firms.

"The management and control of any banking, commercial, manufacturing or other company, or enterprise transferred by the government to any person under any law, shall not again be compulsorily acquired or taken over by the government for any reason whatsoever," the decree said.

Offering similar assurance to new investors, it said "no foreign, industrial or commercial enterprise, established or owned in any form by a foreign or a Pakistani investor in private sector ... shall be compulsorily acquired or taken over by the government."

The decree said all financial obligations incurred, including contractual commitments made on behalf of the government, should continue to remain in force and shall not be altered to the disadvantage of the beneficiaries.

Pakistani or foreign investors would be free to bring in, hold, sell, transfer and take out foreign exchange within or outside Pakistan in any form, and banks will strictly observe "secrecy of bonafide banking transactions."

Authorities shall not question the holder of foreign currency, who will also not be required now to make a foreign currency declaration at any stage.

A person holding foreign currency accounts in Pakistan shall "enjoy immunity against any enquiry from the income tax department about the source of financing the foreign currency accounts," it said.